

Government
Publications



3 1761 11555706 8



8571

SUPPLEMENT No. 4

TO THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF MARINE
AND FISHERIES, FOR THE YEAR 1875.

28

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER,

1875.



OTTAWA:

PRINTED BY MACLEAN, ROGER & Co., WELLINGTON STREET.

1876.

SUPPLEMENT

TEXT

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS
AND TECHNOLOGY

MONOGRAPH

STANDARD

CONTENTS.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES.


Introduction—Condition and yield of Canadian Fisheries for the year 1875—Canadian Fish Trade—Imports and Exports of Fish into Canada for six months, ending 31st December, 1875—Expenditure and Receipts—Licenses issued—Staff of Fishery Officers—Reports of Fishery Officers—Salmon angling—Seal Fishery—Fisheries of Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and British Columbia—Washington Treaty—Seining for whitefish—International legislation—Fish culture and restocking of streams—Ontario salmon—Fish-ways, sawdust and mill rubbish—Protection and development of interior waters—Codfish seining and trawling—Oyster beds—Fishery laws and regulations—Preservation of lobsters—Fresh fish trade—Reducing salmon stands—Statistical returns—Fish Culturists' Association—Protection of fish and game—Centennial Exhibition—Fisheries' protection steamer—Leasing and licensing fishery stations—Riparian claims—Conclusion	i—xxxviii
---	-----------

APPENDICES.

SCHEDULE OF FISHERY OFFICERS IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA	1—14
STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF FISHERIES, for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1875.....	15—31
REPORT OF N. LAVOIE, ESQ., Fishery Officer in charge of the Government steamer employed in the protection of the Fisheries in the Gulf and Lower St. Lawrence, with statistics of fisheries.....	35—116
SPECIAL REPORT BY N. LAVOIE, ESQ., on causes of decline in the salmon fisheries of Gaspé...	117—118
DETAILED STATISTICS OF FISHERIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE of the River St. Lawrence, from Quebec to Cape Chatte.....	119—122
DETAILED STATISTICS OF FISHERIES ON THE NORTH SHORE of the River St. Lawrence, from Quebec to Bersimis	123—126
STATISTICS OF FISHERIES ABOVE QUEBEC.....	127—138
GENERAL RECAPITULATION OF THE YIELD AND VALUE OF THE FISHERIES OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.....	129
SYNOPSIS OF FISHERY OVERSEER'S REPORTS IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, for 1875.....	130—151
STATISTICS OF ANGLING in the rivers of Quebec and New Brunswick, during the season of 1875.....	152
REPORT OF P. S. HAMILTON, ESQ., Inspector of Fisheries for the Province of Nova Scotia	153—163
REPORT OF W. H. ROGERS, ESQ., Fishery Officer, on the Fisheries of Nova Scotia.....	164—179
STATISTICS OF FISHERIES IN NOVA SCOTIA, for 1875.....	180—183
REPORT OF W. H. VENNING, ESQ., Inspector of Fisheries for New Brunswick.....	184—188
STATISTICS OF FISHERIES IN NEW BRUNSWICK, for 1875.....	189—191
SYNOPSIS OF FISHERY OVERSEER'S REPORTS IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, for 1875.....	192—203
DETAILED STATISTICS OF FISHERIES IN ONTARIO, for 1875.....	204—215
RECAPITULATION OF THE YIELD AND VALUE OF FISHERIES IN ONTARIO, for 1875.....	216
STATEMENT OF FISH caught and Exported from P. E. I.	117—218
REPORT ON THE FISHERIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, by the Agent of the Department of Marine and Fisheries	219—224
REPORT ON THE FISHERIES OF MANITOBA, by D. Gunn, Esq., Fishery Overseer.....	225—226

FISH BREEDING.

REPORT OF SAMUEL WILMOT, ESQ., containing detailed information on the Fish Breeding Establishments at Newcastle, Sandwich, Restigouche, Gaspé Basin, Tadouac, Miramichi and Belknap.....	227—244
MR. A. B. WILMOT'S SPECIAL REPORT on failure of the Miramichi Establishment in 1874.....	244—245
MR. JOHN MOWAT'S SPECIAL REPORT on the Restigouche Establishment, 1875.....	245—246
MR. P. VIBERT'S SPECIAL REPORT on the Gaspé Basin Establishment, 1875.....	246—247
MR. A. B. WILMOT'S SPECIAL REPORT on the Miramichi Establishment, 1875.....	247—249



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2022 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761115557068>

REPORT
OF
W. F. WHITCHER, Esq.,
COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES,
FOR 1875.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,

Fisheries Branch,

OTTAWA, 31st March, 1876.

To the Honorable A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

SIR,—Having already addressed to you, for early submission to Parliament with the annual report of your Department, a partial report on the produce and condition of the Fisheries of Canada, and the state of the Fisheries Service connected therewith during the season of 1875, I have now the honor to submit further information regarding this important branch of Canadian industry. These additional facts and suggestions complete the whole of the past year's transactions to the end of December last. The details necessary to a full report of fishing operations in each calendar year are procured from various sources and remote districts, very difficult of access, in which fishing is actively pursued throughout the fall season, and they cannot therefore be prepared for publication until a later period than those statements which relate to monetary and other official transactions occurring within the fiscal year.

PRODUCE AND VALUE OF CANADIAN FISHERIES.

The produce of the Fisheries in 1875 is somewhat less in quantity than it was in 1874. This difference is observable more particularly in the yield of the fishery for salmon and lobsters. The subjoined table shows in detail the various kinds and quantities of fish caught in the several Provinces and also their values. It is so arranged as to admit of an easy comparison of each detail with similar details in the published returns for the previous year, in order that the increase and decrease in the quantity and value of the different kinds of fish may be readily understood. This detailed comparison enables us to understand that while there is some difference in the aggregate quantity and value of the produce of the fisheries last year, it is reasonably accounted for as a mere fluctuation rather than an indication of failure, and that it is to a great extent compensated for by sectional advantages and a fair average of general success.

The total value of fish products in 1875 was \$10,347,886, exclusive of the fisheries of British Columbia, Manitoba and the North-West Territories. The exports of fish and oils from these countries between 30th June, 1874, and 30th June, 1875, are given in the Trade Returns as amounting in value to \$134,723. It may be estimated that the value of fish entering into domestic use in these two Provinces is more than double that amount.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

Of Production in each Branch of Fishing within the respective Provinces
in 1874 and 1875.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Kinds of Fish.	1874.		1875.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		\$ cts.		\$ cts.
Codfish.....	540,048 cwt.	2,295,195 50	484,342 cwt.	2,058,453 50
Herrings.....	153,028 brls.	612,112 00	121,333 brls.	485,352 00
do smoked.....	59,970 boxes.	12,742 00	45,700 boxes.	11,425 00
Mackerel.....	122,258 brls.	1,222,580 00	91,235 brls.	912,350 00
do preserved.....	80,460 cans.	12,069 00	21,400 cans.	3,210 00
Haddock.....	3,356,874 lbs.	231,412 44	3,845,278 lbs.	230,716 68
Pollock.....	24,255 cwt.	84,892 50	38,771 cwt.	135,608 50
Hake.....	42,852 "	149,982 00	16,685 "	58,397 50
Halibut.....	572,110 lbs.	34,326 67	556,915 lbs.	33,414 90
Salmon, pickled.....	4,681 brls.	84,258 00	1,335 brls.	24,030 00
do fresh in ice.....	543,532 lbs.	81,529 89	465,232 lbs.	69,784 80
do smoked.....	26,900 "	4,035 00	16,330 "	2,449 50
do preserved.....	252,186 cans.	63,046 50	124,600 cans.	31,150 00
Alewives.....	13,469 brls.	47,141 50	13,237 brls.	46,329 50
Trout.....	46,645 lbs.	2,798 70	56,630 lbs.	3,397 80
Smelts.....	240,750 "	14,445 00	365,300 "	21,918 00
Shad.....	7,593 brls.	60,744 00	7,976 brls.	63,808 00
Eels.....	1,553 "	13,977 00	1,731 "	15,579 00
Bass.....	1,305 lbs.	81 00	2,750 lbs.	165 00
Oysters.....	1,342 brls.	4,026 00	1,655 brls.	4,965 00
Lobsters.....	5,612,545 cans.	1,403,136 25	4,524,122 cans.	1,131,039 50
Fish Guano.....	1,260 tons.	18,900 00	817 tons.	12,255 00
Fish used as manure.....	1,392 brls.	696 00	1,353 brls.	676 50
Cod Tongues and Sounds.....	1,328 "	9,296 00	1,201 "	8,407 60
Fish Oils.....	290,582 gals.	188,878 30	321,366 gals.	208,887 90
		6,652,301 59		5,573,851 58

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Codfish.....	98,855 cwt.	420,133 75	109,340 cwt.	464,695 00
Herrings.....	100,376 brls.	404,504 00	126,495 brls.	505,939 00
do smoked.....	401,350 boxes	100,337 00	596,300 boxes	149,075 00
Mackerel.....	4,243 brls.	42,430 00	6,137½ brls.	61,375 00
do preserved.....	59,000 cans	8,850 00	39,980 cans	5,997 00
Haddock.....	247,648 lbs.	14,859 48	850,650 lbs.	51,039 00
Pollock.....	10,539 cwt.	36,886 50	5,980 cwt.	20,930 00
Hake.....	28,925 "	101,237 50	29,817 "	104,359 50
Halibut.....	17,165 lbs.	1,029 90	16,100 lbs.	996 00
Salmon, pickled.....	1,387 brls.	24,966 00	2,299 brls.	41,382 00
do fresh in ice.....	1,424,722 lbs.	213,858 30	1,021,789 lbs.	153,268 35
do smoked.....	110,420 boxes	16,593 00	41,550 boxes	6,232 50
do preserved.....	1,402,440 cans.	350,610 00	333,412 cans	83,353 00
Alewives.....	42,361 brls.	148,263 50	33,016 brls.	115,556 00
Trout.....	66,170 lbs.	3,970 20	60,490 lbs.	3,629 40
Smelts.....	915,600 "	54,936 00	1,086,280 "	65,176 80
Shad.....	4,749 brls.	37,992 00	6,419½ brls.	51,356 00
Eels.....	1,967 "	17,703 00	1,241 "	11,169 00
Bass.....	438,075 lbs.	26,284 38	124,036 lbs.	7,442 16
Oysters.....	12,830 brls.	38,490 00	10,020 brls.	30,060 00
Lobsters, preserved.....	2,180,504 cans	545,126 00	1,752,045 cans	438,011 50
Fish Guano.....	2,482 tons	37,230 00	180 tons	2,700 00
Fish used as manure.....	2,400 brls.	1,200 00	4,370 brls.	2,185 00
Cod Tongues and Sounds.....	697 "	4,693 00	1,014 "	7,098 00
Fish Oils.....	56,406 galls.	36,663 90	68,643 galls.	44,617 95
		2,685,793 91		2,427,654 16

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.—*Continued.*

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Kinds of Fish.	1874.		1875.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		\$ cts.		\$ cts.
Codfish.....	151,533 quint'ls	757,665 00	140,714 quint'ls	703,570 00
Herrings.....	43,405 brls.	217,025 00	50,059 "	250,295 00
do smoked.....	1,889 boxes..	472 25		
do fresh water.....	20 brls.	100 00		
Mackerel.....	7,278 "	72,780 00	6,493 brls.	64,930 00
Haddock.....	241 quint'ls	1,205 00	126 quint'ls	630 00
Ling.....	43 "	215 00	33 "	165 00
Halibut.....	302 brls.	1,872 00	201 brls.	1,206 00
Salmon, pickled.....	1,313 "	21,008 00	1,392 "	22,272 00
do fresh, in ice.....	531,992 lbs.	26,599 60	299,873 lbs.	14,993 65
do preserved.....	280,402 cans.	70,100 50	105,206 cans.	26,301 50
Lunge, trout.....	430 brls.	10,750 00	250 brls.	6,250 00
Winnonish, trout.....	7,500 pieces.	1,875 00	9,050 pieces.	2,262 50
Touladi do.....			150 brls.	1,200 00
Trout, grey.....	134 brls.	1,072 00	259 "	2,072 00
do speckled.....	10,000 lbs.	1,000 00	11,000 lbs.	1,100 00
Sturgeon.....	559 brls.	4,472 00	279 brls.	2,232 60
Bar and whitefish.....	136,320 pieces.	22,720 00	44,820 pieces.	7,470 00
Shad.....	66,873 "	6,687 30	134,992 "	13,499 20
Sardines.....	902 brls.	4,510 00	1,037 brls.	5,185 00
Eels.....	374,187 pieces.	37,418 70	266,619 pieces.	26,661 90
Pike.....	60 brls.	600 00	200 brls.	2,000 00
Pickarel.....	186 "	1,860 00	304 "	3,040 00
Tom Cod.....	20,000 bushels.	10,000 00	20,400 bushels.	10,200 00
Smallfish.....			2,563 "	640 75
Maskinonge.....	500 pieces.	1,000 00	850 pieces.	1,700 00
Seals.....	12,639 "	75,834 00	24,369 "	146,214 00
Porpoises.....			104 "	1,096 00
Lobsters, preserved.....	254,908 cans.	63,727 00	86,964 cans.	21,741 00
Mixed fish.....	20,353 brls.	101,765 00	23,407 brls.	117,035 00
Fish used as manure.....	14,569 "	3,642 25	23,881 "	5,970 25
Cod tongues and sounds.....	209 "	1,463 00	398 "	2,786 00
Cod roes.....			624 "	4,992 00
Cod oil.....	97,709 galls.	48,854 50	113,469 galls.	56,734 50
Seal oil.....	54,095 "	27,047 50	98,709 "	49,354 50
Whale oil.....	16,620 "	13,296 00	22,781 "	18,224 80
Porpoise oil.....	17 "	13 60	2,667 "	2,133 60
		\$1,608,660 20		\$1,594,259 15

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Whitefish.....	17,134 brls.	171,340 00	25,573 brls.	255,730 00
do fresh.....	84,611 lbs.	4,230 00		
do fresh.....	569,112 pieces.	56,910 00		
Trout.....	13,951 brls.	139,510 00	8,965 brls.	89,650 00
Herrings.....	7,959 "	39,795 00	9,400 "	56,400 00
Sciscos.....	293 "	1,904 50	196 "	1,274 00
Maskinongé.....	413 "	1,652 00	246 "	1,230 00
Bass.....	1,576 "	6,304 00	823 "	4,750 00
Pike.....	876 ¹ / ₂ "	3,502 00	748 "	3,740 00
Pickarel.....	2,054 "	8,216 00	3,861 "	19,405 00
Coarse fish.....	3,226 "	12,904 00	4,330 "	21,650 00
		\$446,267 50		\$453,194 00

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.—*Continued.*

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Kind of Fish.	1874.		1875.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		\$ cts.		\$ cts.
Codfish	7,413 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.	29,018 00	14,359 cwt.	30,159 03
Herrings	1,280 brls.	4,966 00	2,363 brls.	8,375 64
Mackerel	27,317 "	221,761 00	19,789 "	197,890 00
Salmon, pickled	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	114 00		
do preserved	4,978 cans.	9,389 00	11,308 cans.	3,448 93
Sea fish, fresh	181 tons.	7,157 00	2,200 lbs.	110 00
do other kinds	32 "	4,300 00	200 tons.	10,748 00
Oysters	146 brls.	256 00	41 brls.	82 00
Lobsters, preserved	1,443 cases.	10,592 00	151,248 cans.	47,876 00
Fish Oils	2,805 galls.	1,310 00	517 galls.	237 80
		\$288,863 00		\$298,927 40

GENERAL RECAPITULATION of the Yield and Value of Fisheries within the Dominion of Canada, for the Year 1875.

X

Kinds of Fish.	Nova Scotia.	New Brunswick.	Quebec.	Ontario.	Prince Edward Island.	Total Quantities.
Godfish..... Cwt.	484,342	109,340	157,599	.....	14,359	765,640
Herrings..... Brls.	121,338	126,495	50,959	9,596	2,366	309,854
do smoked..... Boxes.	45,700	596,300	.....	.....	.....	642,000
Mackerel..... Brls.	91,235	6,138	6,493	.....	19,789	123,655
do preserved..... Cans.	21,400	39,980	.....	.....	.....	61,380
Haddock..... Lbs.	3,845,278	850,850	14,112	.....	.....	4,710,040
Ling..... Cwt.	.....	.....	37	.....	.....	37
Pollock..... do	38,771	5,980	.....	.....	44,751	44,751
Hake..... do	29,817	29,817	.....	.....	46,502	46,502
Halibut..... Lbs.	556,915	16,100	40,200	.....	613,215	613,215
Salmon, pickled..... do	1,335	2,299	1,392	.....	.....	5,026
do fresh, in ice..... do	465,232	1,021,789	299,873	.....	.....	1,786,894
do smoked..... do	41,530	41,530	.....	.....	.....	57,880
do preserved..... Cans.	124,800	333,412	105,206	.....	11,308	574,526
Alewives..... Brls.	13,237	33,616	.....	.....	.....	46,253
Trout (all kinds)..... Lbs.	56,630	60,490	199,400	1,793,000	.....	2,109,520
Sturgeon..... Brls.	.....	.....	279	.....	.....	279
Bar and Whitefish..... Pieces.	7,976	6,420	44,820	255,730	.....	300,550
Shad..... Brls.	.....	.....	1,638	.....	16,094	16,094
Sardines..... do	.....	1,241	1,037	.....	.....	1,037
Eels..... do	1,371	.....	2,963	.....	.....	5,575
Pike..... do	.....	.....	200	749	.....	948
Pickarel..... do	.....	.....	304	3,881	.....	4,185
Bass..... Lbs.	2,750	124,036	.....	164,600	.....	291,386
Maskinongé..... Pieces.	.....	.....	850	615	.....	1,468
Smelts..... Lbs.	365,300	1,086,280	.....	.....	.....	1,451,580
Small fish..... Brls.	.....	.....	9,363	.....	.....	9,363
Oysters..... do	1,655	10,020	.....	.....	41	11,716
Mixed fish..... do	.....	.....	23,407	4,330	2,022	28,759
Lobsters, preserved..... Cans.	4,524,122	1,752,046	86,964	.....	151,248	6,514,380
Seals..... Pieces	.....	.....	24,369	.....	.....	24,369
Porpoises..... do	.....	.....	104	.....	.....	104
Fish Guano..... Tons	817	180	.....	.....	.....	997
Fish used as Manure..... Brls.	1,353	4,370	23,681	.....	.....	29,604
Cod Tongues and Sounds..... do	1,201	1,014	398	.....	.....	2,613
Cod Roes..... do	.....	.....	624	.....	.....	624
Fish Oils..... Gals.	321,366	68,643	237,626	.....	517	628,152
Total Values.....	\$5,573,851 58	\$2,427,654 16	\$1,594,259 15	\$453,194 00	\$298,927 40	\$10,347,886 29

CONDITION OF CANADIAN FISHERIES.

Although there is an exceptional difference between the yield of our fisheries last year and the year before, their condition is altogether satisfactory. The fishing populations, as a whole, have enjoyed a reasonable degree of prosperity. We may safely anticipate a yearly increasing yield from the fisheries now that the river and estuary nurseries have been permanently improved. It will, however, be necessary to guard with renewed vigilance against excessive and improper modes of fishing which the competition of foreign fishermen along our shores is very likely to occasion. Already serious complaints have been received from the Bay of Fundy and elsewhere, respecting the manner of conducting the herring and other fisheries by United States citizens admitted to Canadian waters under the Treaty of Washington. Unless proper measures shall be adopted to restrain all parties from injurious methods of fishing the Canadian fishermen may resort to similarly objectionable practices in self-defence.

CANADIAN FISH TRADE.

The Trade Returns published by the Customs Department show that the fish exported through the Customs in the fiscal year to 30th June, 1875, exceeded in value the exports of the preceding year by \$88,159. In 1874 the exports amounted to \$5,292,368, and the imports to \$925,692. In 1875 the exports were valued at \$5,380,527, and the imports to \$830,129. The increase of exports during the six months following to 31st December, 1875, is in greater proportion, the whole amounting to \$3,502,749; and the imports to \$361,913. The statement at foot shows the values and quantities of fish exported and imported in that half year. I am indebted for it to the courtesy of the Customs Department.

Considering the almost universal stagnation of business interests which prevailed last year, and the consequent falling off in nearly all the leading articles of export, it is highly gratifying to find the fish trade in this prosperous condition.

STATEMENT of the Value and Quantities of Fish exported from and imported into the Dominion of Canada during the six months ending the 31st December, 1875.

Articles.	Countries.	Exports.		Imports, free, from United States.		
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
		Cwt.	\$	Cwt.	\$	\$ cts.
Cod fish, including Haddock, Ling and Pollock, fresh.....	Great Britain.....	10,496	60,572			
	United States.....	37,302	131,729	10,663	45,840	
	Newfoundland.....	7,160	33,200	1,643	5,255	
	British West Indies...	103,732	491,485			
	Spanish West Indies..	67,548	284,442			
	French West Indies...	38,348	168,659			
	Danish West Indies...	2,936	15,296			
	British Guiana.....	22,057	110,425			
	Hayti.....	9,280	46,790			
	Maderia.....	2,949	14,545			
	Portugal.....	10,701	41,541			
	Italy.....	31,111	139,327			
	South America.....	47,639	241,769			
	Portuguese Possessions, Pacific Ocean	124	633			
	New Zealand.....	1,500	7,450			
		392,933	1,787,863	12,306	51,095	
Cod fish, including Haddock, Ling and Pollock, wet salted		Cwt.		Cwt.		
	Great Britain.....	140	908			
	United States.....		24,367	228	948	
	Newfoundland.....					
	British West Indies...	1,857	6,011			
	Spanish West Indies...	6,691	9,958			
Cod fish, Haddock, &c., pickled.....	French West Indies...	1,267	4,369			
		9,955	45,613	228	948	
		Brls.				
	Great Britain.....	176	711			
	United States.....	2	8			
	British West Indies...	11	54			
Cod fish, Haddock, &c., fresh.....		189	773			
		Lbs.		Lbs.		
Cod fish, Haddock, &c., preserved.....	United States.....	3,370	756	1,052,563	39,448	
		Lbs.				
Cod fish, Haddock, &c., smoked.....	Great Britain.....	4,560	713			
	British West Indies...	150	28			
		4,735	741			
		Lbs.		Lbs.		
	Great Britain.....	35	8			
	United States.....	200	37	501,224	29,932	
	Newfoundland.....					
	British West Indies...	600	155			
	French West Indies...	1,300	261			
	Danish West Indies...	600	100			
		2,735	561	501,224	29,932	

STATEMENT of the Value and Quantities of Fish exported from and imported into the Dominion of Canada, &c.—Continued.

Articles.	Countries.	Exports.		Imports, free, from United States.		
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
				Lbs.	\$	
Mackerel, fresh	United States.....			2,380	193	
		Brls.		Brls.		
Mackerel, pickled	Great Britain	213	1,318			
	United States.....	52,403	405,638		653	5,223
	Newfoundland.....	4	10			
	British West Indies...	3,314	27,010			
	Spanish West Indies...	2,094	11,998			
	French West Indies...	1,082	6,141			
	Danish West Indies...	456	4,323			
	British Guiana.....	939	6,077			
	Hayti.....	1,864	12,233			
	St. Pierre	63	452			
	New Zealand.....	10	80			
		62,442	475,280	653	5,223	
		Lbs.				
Mackerel, canned	United States.....	20,160	4,032			
		Lbs.				
Halibut, fresh	United States.....					
		Brls.		Brls.		
Halibut, pickled.....	United States.....	147	811	6	79	
		Lbs.		Lbs.		
Herring, fresh	United States	966,000	12,867	5,630	110	
	St. Pierre	4,000	66			
		970,000	12,933	5,630	110	
		Brls.		Brls.		
Herring, pickled.....	Great Britain	36	144			
	United States.....	30,705	122,667	2,599	10,325	
	Newfoundland.....	53	209	110	440	
	British West Indies...	14,669	71,807			
	Spanish West Indies...	5,458	20,008			
	French West Indies...	713	2,820			
	Danish West Indies...	1,792	6,707			
	St. Pierre.....			88	352	
	British Guiana.....	3,168	11,916			
	Hayti	32	121			
	New Zealand	163	662			
		56,791	237,061	2,797	11,117	

STATEMENT of the Value and Quantities of Fish exported from and imported into the Dominion of Canada, &c.—Continued.

Articles.	Countries.	Exports.		Imports, free, from United States.		
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
		Lbs.	\$	Lbs.		\$ cts.
Herring, smoked	Great Britain	651,980	13,093			
	United States.....	849,614	23,125	407,544	13,661	
	Newfoundland.....					
	British West Indies...	53,800	1,599			
	Spanish West Indies...	3,721	113			
	Danish West Indies...	42,266	1,268			
	British Guiana.....	3,333	100			
	Hayti	65,666	1,970			
	Maderia	2,333	70			
	St. Pierre.....	968	29			
		1,683,679	41,367	407,544	13,661	
Sea fish, other, fresh.				Lbs.		
				238,866	7,202	
Sea Fish, other, pickled.....		Brls.				
	Great Britain.....	672	4,962			
	United States	266	651	125	500	
	Newfoundland					
	British West Indies...	910	3,719			
	Danish West Indies...	295	1,747			
	British Guiana	98	444			
	Hayti.....	1,407	7,706			
		3,648	19,229	125	500	
Sea Fish, preserved..	British West Indies...		100			
	Italy.....		36			
	United States.....			1,790	218	
			136	1,790	218	
Oysters, fresh..		Brls.				
	Great Britain.....	17	75			
	United States.....	37	134	5,758	48,202	
	Newfoundland.....	131	319			
	St. Pierre.....	10	20			
		195	548	5,758	48,202	
Oysters, in cans.....				Lbs.		
	United States.....			770,093	81,082	
Lobsters, fresh				Brls.		
	United States.....			525	2,700	

STATEMENT of the Value and Quantities of Fish exported from and imported into the Dominion of Canada, &c -- *Continued.*

Articles.	Countries.	Exports.		Imports, free, from United States.		
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
		Lbs.	\$		\$	\$ cts.
Lobsters, preserved.	Great Britain.....	3,450,256	428,317			
	United States	674,867	89,403	96,972	6,869	
	Newfoundland	12,470	1,417			
	British West Indies...	16,974	2,174			
	French West Indies ..	196	24			
	St. Pierre.....	48	8	52,515	5,470	
		4,154,811	521,343	149,487	12,339	
		Brls.				
Fish Bait	United States.....			1,702	4,642	
	St. Pierre.....	1	3			
		Lbs.				
Salmon, fresh.....	United States.....	247,415	28,182	400	20	
	Danish West Indies...	1,511	154			
	Hayti.....	181	18			
	Maderia.....	271	27			
	St. Pierre.....	5,948	590			
		255,326	28,971	400	20	
		Lbs.				
Salmon, smoked	Great Britain.....	400	45			
	United States	9,784	1,164	394	91	
		10,184	1,209	394	91	
		Lbs.	\$	Lbs.		
Salmon, canned	Great Britain	388,503	50,205			
	United States	195,861	24,616	23,605	2,332	
	Newfoundland	302	45			
	British West Indies...	618	344			
	French West Indies...	109	18			
	South America	14,880	1,663			
	Australia	120,608	14,528			
		720,992	91,419	23,605	2,332	
		Brls.		Brls.		
Salmon, pickled	Great Britain	310	950			
	United States	1,264	17,403	83	611	
	British West Indies...	365	6,506			
	French West Indies...					
	Danish West Indies...	18	190			
	British Guiana	63	777			
	Hayti	19	157			
		2,042	25,983	83	611	

STATEMENT of the Value and Quantities of Fish exported from and imported into the Dominion of Canada, &c,—*Continued.*

Articles.	Countries.	Exports.		Imports, free, from United States.		
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
			\$		\$	\$ cts.
Fish, all other, fresh.	United States		40,664		8,036	
	Newfoundland		225			
			40,889		8,036	
do pickled		Brls.		Brls.		
	Great Britain	494	2,778			
	United States	2,959	13,491	40	363	
	British West Indies...	2	10			
	French West Indies...	23	111			
	France			1	5	
	Australia	64	295			
		3,542	16,685	41	368	
Fish Oil, Whale.....		Galls.		Galls.		
	Great Britain	4,250	2,644			
	United States	7,028	3,514	6,783	3,812	
	British West Indies...	490	245			
	Newfoundland	447	175			
	Hayti	140	75			
		12,355	6,653	6,783	3,812	
		Galls.		Galls.		
do Cod.....	Great Britain	74,884	39,326			
	United States	61,528	29,075	14,611	5,443	
	British West Indies...	25	20			
	Newfoundland	19,827	11,838	342	299	
		156,264	80,259	14,953	5,742	
do Other		Galls.		Galls.		
	Great Britain	20,670	12,730			
	United States	9,395	5,470	65,475	22,475	
	Newfoundland	5,491	2,600			
	Spanish West Indies..	3,000	1,500			
	Australia	934	549			
		39,490	22,849	65,475	22,475	
urs or Skins of marine animals.....						
	Great Britain		20,188			
	United States		850			
	Newfoundland		164			
			21,202			

STATEMENT of the Value and Quantities of Fish exported from and imported into the Dominion of Canada, &c.—*Continued.*

Articles.	Countries.	Exports.		Imports, free, from United States.		
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
			\$		\$	\$ cts.
Other articles	Great Britain		950			
	United States		14,134			
	British W. Indies		90			
	Danish W. Indies		25			
	South America		250			
	France		2,043			
	Italy		24			
	Maderia		49			
IMPORTED ¹ FROM THE UNITED STATES AND PAYING DUTY.	St. Pierre		15			
			17,580			
Fish preserved in oil					3,640	637 00
Fish caught in the inland lakes				13,761	1,051	137 70
Fish paying duty:— Salted or smoked...				Lbs.		
	Great Britain			10,224	1,022	102 24
	Norway			210	24	2 10
				10,434	1,046	104 34
Oysters in cans	Great Britain			38	18	3 20
Lobsters, preserved	Great Britain			528	72	12 65
Preserved in oil....	Great Britain				3,299	577 30
	France				614	107 40
					3,913	684 70
	Totals		3,502,749		361,913	1,579 59

EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS.

The following statements exhibit the respective amounts expended and collected during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1875, and the current expenses and collections from 1st July to 31st December, 1875. The expenditure for the period first above named is sub-divided for the several Provinces and services, as follows:—

ONTARIO.

Fishery Overseers' salaries and disbursements.....	\$8,383 61	
Fish-breeding.....	5,635 74	
		14,019 35

QUEBEC.

Fishery Overseers' salaries and disbursements.....	9,808 34	
Fish-breeding.....	8,525 46	
Fisheries protection vessel.....	10,000 00	
		28,333 80

NOVA SCOTIA.

Fishery Overseers' salaries and disbursements.....	12,265 86	
Fish-breeding.....	100 00	
		12,365 86

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Fishery Overseers' and Inspector of Fisheries' salaries and disbursements.....	10,046 88	
Fish-breeding	3,743 73	
		13,790 61

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Water Bailiffs' salaries.....	459 54	
		459 54

MANITOBA.

Salary and disbursements of Fishery Overseer.....	288 65	
		288 65

Total expenditure..... \$69,257 81

And for the subsequent half-year, as below:—

Ontario, Fishery Overseers' salaries and disbursements..	\$6,883 14
Quebec, do do	9,957 33
Nova Scotia, do do	6,575 39
New Brunswick, do do	5,676 50
Fisheries protection steamer <i>Glendon</i>	14,200 00
Fish-breeding.....	27,365 52
Total.....	\$70,657 88

The Collections during the fiscal year are arranged under the following heads :—

ONTARIO.

Rents, license fees, fines and confiscations..... \$4,478 05

QUEBEC.

Rents, license fees, fines and forfeitures..... 8,904 85

NOVA SCOTIA.

Taxes on nets, fines and forfeitures..... 551 00

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Rents, taxes on nets, fines and forfeitures..... 830 30

Total..... \$14,764 20

And those for the next six months are as follows :—

Ontario, rents and fees, fines and confiscations..... \$3,093 43

Quebec, do do 4,107 34

Nova Scotia, do do 467 85

New Brunswick, do 1,262 76

Total..... \$8,931 38

These dues being payable invariably in advance, there is very little trouble attending their collections, and no arrears accrue. The whole amount collected in the last fiscal year exceeds the sum received for the previous year; but the total collections for the six months to the end of December last are somewhat less. This decrease is owing to the reduced rate of license fees charged for salmon-fishing stations, because of the partial failure and depressed condition of that industry. About sixty per cent. was taken off; otherwise the collections for eighteen months past would considerably exceed those for the corresponding term reckoned in last year's report.

LICENSES ISSUED.

There were 497 Fishery Licenses issued in Ontario; 591 in Quebec, and 38 in New Brunswick, making together 1,126.

STAFF OF FISHERY OFFICERS.

In 1874 the Staff of Fishery Officers consisted of the following :—

ONTARIO—Fishery Overseers (*ex officio* Magistrates) and Fishery Guardians..... 72

QUEBEC—Fishery Overseers (*ex officio* Magistrates) and Fishery Guardians..... 66

Commander and crew of Fisheries Protection Steamer *Glendon*..... 24
5—d 2½*

NOVA SCOTIA—Inspector, Fishery Overseers (<i>ex officio</i> Magistrates) and Fishery Wardens.....	217
NEW BRUNSWICK—Inspector, Fishery Overseers (<i>ex officio</i> Magistrates) and Fishery Wardens.....	90
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—Fishery Overseers and Water Bailiffs....	18
MANITOBA—Fishery Overseer.....	1

Additions to the Staff were made in 1875 as follows:—

Ontario.....	8
Quebec.....	19
Nova Scotia.....	17
New Brunswick.....	10
Prince Edward Island.....	8

Making altogether 526 Fishery Officers now employed in the outside service.

This regular staff receives occasional aid from lock-masters on the Government canals, light-house keepers and Dominion policemen, which arrangement saves employing in certain places other Fishery Officers at separate salaries.

Early last spring a change was made in the joint inspectorship for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and an Inspector for each of these two Provinces is now provided. The new arrangement ensures undivided attention to the fishery interests of both Provinces and further improves these valuable possessions. In several of the counties improvements have been made affecting the location, force and efficiency of Fishery Officers.

REPORTS OF FISHERY OFFICERS.

Detailed reports of the various Fishery Officers engaged in the service are printed in the Appendices. They embrace particulars of the year's business in each fishery district; and also give details respecting the quantity and value of fish caught in sub-divisions of the respective fishery districts, together with much interesting matter relative to the condition of every fishing, the state of the rivers, the observance of fishery laws, and proceedings taken for violation of the same.

It was found necessary to make special enquiries into the manner of fishing pursued in Georgian Bay and some other parts of Lake Huron. Frequent complaints had been made of illegal fishing in that region; and as there is no General Inspector, the Department requested Mr. Kerr, of Hamilton, to go there and examine into the subject. Mr. Kerr did so, with diligence and discretion, and discovered many abusive practices. The offending parties were many of them tried and convicted, and it is hoped the examples made will produce a good effect, rendering unnecessary any further special action in that section.

SALMON ANGLING.

The total sum accruing as rents under leases of angling privileges is \$4,685.

The salmon caught by anglers with artificial flies numbered 2,780. It is impossible to state the whole expenditure in rents, outfit, expenses, &c., which they incurred; but it is probable that the outlay of private persons on the thirty-four rivers fished by these angling parties was about \$37,200.

SEAL FISHERY.

Reference was made in last year's report to the subject of regulations affecting the seal fishery which the British Board of Trade had proposed for adoption by Her Majesty's Government. An Imperial Order in Council was adopted on the 5th of February last, applying the Seal Fishery Act of 1875 to certain limits mentioned in the schedule. This area is included between the parallels of 67° and 75° of north latitude, and between the meridians of 5° east and 17° west longitude, reckoned from the Greenwich meridian. It comprises the eastern coast of Greenland and Jan Mayen Island. The purport of this proclamation is to fix the third day of April as the open season for capturing seals. Such prohibition is made contingent on the enactment by foreign States of a similar close-time. It will probably be on this pattern that any restrictions on the pursuit in British North American waters will be in future applied, should it be found necessary to enact any protective rules.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

A proclamation was issued in October last by the Governor General, under the Act 37 Vic., chap. 28, applying the Fisheries Act to Prince Edward Island; pursuant to which special Fishery Regulations were adopted by Order in Council, establishing close-seasons for salmon and trout, and setting apart certain rivers for the natural and artificial propagation of fish. There being already in force certain provincial statutes affecting the oyster and alewives fisheries, which it is undesirable to change at present, the same are continued in force until they shall be superseded by further regulations. It is proposed to organize a staff of local Fishery Overseers and Wardens to enforce the observance of these laws and regulations. The appointments already made were intended to provide for the most pressing wants in certain localities. It is probable that an Overseer, having magisterial powers, for each of the three counties, and ten or twelve Wardens under each of these Overseers, will suffice for the present.

Mr. Isaac Thompson, the Fishery Overseer for Queens County, who has always shown an active and intelligent interest in the river fisheries, reports that there was a favourable run of salmon into the Island streams last fall. He says:—
 "They commenced to run up the Winter River in large numbers during the first week of November, and as suggested to me by Messrs. Whitcher and Wilmot, I placed a tank under the mill dam, and from thence conducted the water in a

“covered flume into the under-story of a house not then in use, inside of which I placed a trough with screens or trays of tinned wire. Here, on the 15th of November, I caught seven salmon with a seine, three of which were large and would each weigh about 25 lb. I obtained about 10,000 eggs from them. I intend—when they are hatched—to put them into brooks that run into the mill-pond, which is entirely fed by springs.

“I directed Wardens Clow and Garnmaham to count the spawning beds from the head of the tide-flow to the first mill-dam on this river, a distance of about two miles; and they reported the number to be 246. Some of these beds being very large, it is impossible to say how many pairs spawned on each of them, but there must have been a great many.

“I would respectfully submit as my opinion that soon there will not be sufficient spawning ground for the numbers that will return when the immense shoals of young fry come to maturity.”

MANITOBA.

The Fishery Laws should soon be enforced in this Province. Settlement in the watered sections is extending so rapidly that the limited fishings which exist are already exposed to injury. It is in the true interest of the settlers, and particularly necessary for the other inhabitants, to regulate the modes and times of fishing before any extensive damage is inflicted. The practice of barring channels with nets and weirs during springtime, and thus preventing the fish from reaching suitable places to deposit their spawn, threatens to inflict permanent injury on these fisheries. I was unable to visit the Province last season, as you desired, and am therefore unprepared to suggest specific means for guarding against other injurious practices which are said to prevail; but by simply extending the Fisheries Act to Manitoba, and instructing the Fishery Overseer at Winnipeg to apply such of its clauses as relate to the obstruction of channels and protection of breeding grounds, any further injury of a serious nature may, for the present, be averted. Instead of appointing other Fishery Officers there, just now, it is suggested that the Timber Inspectors for the Eastern and Western Divisions of Manitoba be employed to guard the fisheries, whenever it may be considered advisable to enforce any necessary prohibitions. The prevailing destitution amongst settlers in that country renders it undesirable to do anything more at present than merely to interfere with such practices as require immediate restriction.

It is estimated by the local Fishery Overseer that the money value of fish taken last year and consumed in the Province, was \$27,920. These fish were sturgeon, catfish, whitefish, jackfish, gold eyes, pike, carp, perch and sunfish.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A report respecting the Fisheries of British Columbia has been furnished by the

departmental Agent at Victoria, but it does not embody information of the catch of fish for trade or for consumption by the inhabitants. The statements appended to last year's report show that the fishes of this Province are considerable in variety and abundance, and must therefore become, if not already they are, commercially valuable. As a step towards ascertaining their practical importance and wants, it seems advisable now to extend the Fisheries Act to British Columbia. This might be done formally by proclamation, to be followed by specific application of the fishery laws and special regulations after further enquiry. An Inspector should also be appointed, who would make enquiries this season and procure information for future use.

WASHINGTON TREATY.

Negotiations pursued in 1873-74 to merge in reciprocal trade arrangements the Canadian claim for compensation from the United States Government on account of concurrent fishing privileges accorded by Great Britain to United States citizens, thus to save the trouble and expense of a Mixed Commission, and to avoid further delays in completing that compact, having failed to accomplish the desired objects, it became necessary to revert to the original treaty provisions. Sir A. T. Galt, K.C.M.G., was therefore appointed as British Commissioner, and F. C. Ford, Esq., H. M.'s *Chargé D'affaires* at Darmstadt, was appointed as British Agent. The last named gentleman arrived at the capital, accompanied by an assistant, Mr. H. J. G. Bergne, of the Foreign Office, during last autumn. They addressed themselves promptly and diligently to preparing for the business of the Commission at Halifax, where it was expected to assemble about the commencement of winter. The following eminent legal counsel were retained and consulted regarding the claim to be submitted to such tribunal: Jos. Doutre, Esq., Q.C., Montreal; S. R. Thomson, Esq., Q.C., of St. John, N. B.; R. L. Weatherbe, Esq., of Halifax, N. S.; and Louis H. Davies, Esq., of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. These gentlemen, together with Messrs. Ford and Bergne, and the undersigned, met and conferred with you at St. John, N.B. It proved impossible, however, to effect any further progress, because of failure on the part of the American Government to appoint their Commissioner. Her Majesty's Agent and his companion consequently proceeded from St. John to New York, and returned thence to England.

SEINING FOR WHITEFISH.

Owing to the great destruction of young whitefish caused by summer seining with small meshed nets, the Fisheries Act prohibited seines during June and July. This prohibition was represented as bearing harshly on the fishermen of certain localities where seines alone are used and are serviceable only during the calm weather. After investigating the matter, and being satisfied that if the meshes of the seines are large enough, and the seiners are warned against killing or catching

the fry, I would suggest an amending regulation to allow seining in summer time with nets of at least four inches extension measure in the meshes.

INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATION.

Under this head the following observations occur in the annual reports for three years past :—

“ 1872 :—The rapid diminution of marketable fishes in those waters which border on the United States and Canada, particularly between lakes Erie and Huron, claims early attention. Whilst within Canadian jurisdiction certain established rules control the dates and methods of fishing, there are practically no restrictions in the adjoining limits; consequently much of the good which our fishery laws design to accomplish is frustrated to the mutual damage of fishing pursuits in these waters. If it were possible to induce the State Governments of Michigan, Ohio, New York and Vermont to unite in ascertaining how far and in what manner the prevalent causes of deterioration may be affected by judicious legislation, and promptly enforce some moderate restrictions, I should suggest assimilating as closely as practicable the necessary existing regulations enforced by Canadian officials.

“ There is every reason to believe that the effect would prove mutually beneficial, and we might confidently expect a marked improvement in the almost international fisheries of bordering waters.”

“ 1873.—The manifest decline of the fisheries on the American shores of the Great Lakes has induced special efforts to restore them. In this the Federal and State Governments are co-operating. Where these waters border closely on the United States and Canada, it becomes a common necessity to assimilate as nearly as practicable the local fishery regulations. This is very easy as respects the Dominion, owing to the large statutory powers conferred on the Government, and the elasticity of our protective system. There is every desire to assist and co-operate with the Federal and State authorities in attaining such improvements as shall be mutually advantageous to us as near neighbours. Besides the United States Commissioner and his efficient staff of assistants, there are now thirty-seven State Commissioners appointed for purposes connected with the restoration and preservation of these inland fisheries.”

“ 1874 :—Reference was made in last year's report to the expressed desire of the Federal and State Fishery Commissioners that uniform legislation should be applied to the fisheries in such waters as border on the United States and Canada. Whenever the necessary restrictions are adopted in neighbouring States, the undersigned will be prepared to suggest such local regulations as may prove mutually beneficial. At present the unrestricted and destructive manner in which fishing is carried on by the United States citizens near our water boundary, compels us to allow greater privileges to Canadian fishermen than consist with the due preservation of fish.”

No action having taken place by either the Federal or State authorities, the matter was brought by you under special notice by the subjoined report addressed to the Governor General in Council on the 23rd of September last :—

“ The undersigned desires to draw the attention of the Government to a peculiar difficulty attending the adoption and enforcement of restrictive measures for the protection and increase of fish frequenting in common the frontier waters of the United States and Canada. Certain regulations as to the methods and periods of fishing have been found necessary to preserve the young fish from destruction, and to protect the parent fish during seasons of reproduction; also to protect the fishing grounds generally against excessive fishing. Whilst along the Canadian frontier, and on the inland waters connected with the great lakes and the River St. Lawrence, these judicious restrictions exist, and the fisheries are steadily improving, no

"similar restrictions are observed by United States fishermen in adjoining waters. This circumstance occasions great dissatisfaction among Canadians, who regard it as an injury to them that foreigners should thus by unrestricted fishing reap the benefits as well of an increased supply as of unlimited operations.

"The undersigned begs to suggest that official communication should be had with the State authorities of Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont and Maine, inviting attention to the necessity for legislation on this subject."

An Order in Council based thereon was transmitted to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, who has communicated on the matter with the State Department, and suggested that the attention of the Governors of the States mentioned should be invited to the subject.

I cannot refrain from observing here, that no efforts have been lacking on the part of Canada to bring about some common code of local regulations; and beg in this connection to transcribe a letter addressed last winter to the United States Commissioner of Fisheries:

DOMINION OF CANADA,
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,
FISHERIES BRANCH,
OTTAWA, 4th February, 1875.

"MY DEAR SIR,---Having submitted to the Minister (Hon. A. J. Smith) your cordial invitation to join in a meeting of the Fish Commissioners of the several States of the Union and of the United States, in New York next week, for the purpose of mutual conference and consultation on subjects of interest in connection with the multiplication of food fishes, and the necessary regulations for their protection, I am to express his and my own regret that the assembling of Parliament this week, and consequent pressure of official business, render it impossible for me to accept. This is the more to be regretted, because, in addition to the pleasure and advantage which such attendance would undoubtedly afford, it also deprives me of an opportunity to witness the discussions of the American Fish Culturists' Association, of which it is my valued privilege to be an executive member. Notwithstanding such disappointment, the Minister feels gratified in being enabled to mark his appreciation of your purpose and responds partially to your wishes, by desiring Mr. Samuel Wilmot, with whose zealous attention to fish culture you are already acquainted, to attend both the conferences of the Commissioners and the proceedings of the Association. Canada takes a mutual interest in the investigations and observations which these able and patriotic bodies are now prosecuting.

"The International object and Continental character with which you endeavour to invest the whole enterprise, are also duly recognized.

"I have read with very great interest indeed, and with considerable profit, the excellent reports emanating from the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries, and also the suggestive statements of the various State Fishery Commissioners, together with the instructive papers of the American Fish Culturists' Association. The activity and progress which they display, not less than the practical skill and ability which characterize such exertions, claim the hearty congratulations of every body concerned about an abundance of wholesome food for the nation. Although the field and fruits of our own efforts may be considered small in proportion to those of the neighbouring Republic, we readily perceive that some of the chief difficulties to be met and overcome resemble in character those we have already encountered in Canada. But there is every encouragement to persevere in the knowledge that the general intelligence of the people, once informed and educated by such means as these Commissions and Associations are adopting, will ultimately second your efforts and must

"render the work one of permanent national importance. The Canadian Fishery Laws convey ample power to regulate and restrict all modes and seasons of fishing; but, as affecting waters bordering on the United States and Canada, the regulations requisite to ensure due protection and increase for the more valuable varieties of commercial fishes which frequent either shores, are still kept in abeyance by reason of continued neglect for several years past to restrict in any manner whatever the fishing pursued by United States citizens to an excessive extent, and by improvident methods, along the frontages of adjoining territories of the American Union. This Department would not only be prepared from time to time to assimilate all necessary restrictions in these localities, but would be gratified to find some near prospect of the present hindrances to improving our border fisheries being even gradually removed. If it is intended to re-stock certain of your streams with salmon and shad, requiring access to and from the sea through Canadian channels, it should be early considered under what reciprocal legislation the advantages of this important undertaking may be mutually secured.

"There are, in communications received from you, two points which require more definite notice. The first relates to joint arrangements for hatching white-fish on the Detroit River; and the same reason for indecision explained in my letter of 21st September last still exists. The second refers to continuance of explorations in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. With reference to this service, I am happy to inform you that the Department purposes to continue it next season on an improved scale, in conjunction with enlarged facilities for regulating and developing the estuary and river fisheries, and the cultivation of lobsters and oysters around the coasts of Canada. While you are pleased to observe that the limited explorations made by Mr. Whiteaves have proved serviceable to the extensive investigations which you are prosecuting into the marine life of the coast on behalf of the United States Government, each having a direct practical bearing on the fisheries, we can scarcely hope with so small a staff and so few appliances to accomplish anything of sufficient moment to deserve the credit of a co-operative pursuit. Nevertheless, we shall gratefully avail ourselves of the vast and varied information your Commission procures, which in a scientific and practical sense doubtless touches conditions and productions common to North American waters, and will in return contribute with much pleasure our very humble share to the cause of practical science.

"Be pleased to accept sincere thanks for many courtesies, and to assure your associates both in the Commission and Association of my warmest sympathy and regard.

"I am, my Dear Sir,
"Very truly yours,

"W. F. WHITCHER,
"Commissioner of Fisheries."

"To the Hon. SPENCER F. BAIRD,
"United States Commissioner
"of Fish and Fisheries,
New York."

FISH CULTURE.

The Dominion Government has now in actual operation seven public establishments devoted to the artificial reproduction of fish. Besides those formerly existing at Newcastle, Gaspé, Restigouche and Miramichi, this Department has built and completed three other handsome and commodious establishments at Sandwich, on the Detroit River; at Tadousac, on the Saguenay River, and at Bedford, on the Sackville River, near the head of Bedford Basin and only a few miles from Halifax. The

capacity of the parent institution on Wilmot's Creek, in Ontario, has also been enlarged, so that in future the interior can accommodate many millions more of fish spawn, and the rearing ponds will harbour millions of young fry. The particulars of operations connected with each of these establishments will be found in reports forming part of the Appendices. A statement in detail of the distribution of young fish bred at the hatching houses last spring, and also of the numbers of fish ova laid down last fall, will be found in the report of S. Wilmot, Esq.

At Newcastle, Ontario, over a million of vivified salmon eggs were deposited in a healthy state, together with 300,000 salmon trout eggs, and 200,000 whitefish eggs. Upwards of twelve millions of whitefish eggs were successfully placed in the Sandwich establishment. About 70,000 were deposited at Gaspé, which quantity ought to have been quadrupled but for the escape of the stock of parent salmon penned up during the summer time. I fear that accidents such as this, and the misfortune by which last year's stock of salmon fry at Miramichi, amounting to a million and a half, was reduced to 150,000, are attributable in some degree to negligence or incompetence. The Tadousac establishment, which turned out 80,000 of last winter's hatch, has this year about 200,000 salmon eggs in excellent condition. The success of this experiment, so very encouraging in its first two seasons, is mainly due to the indefatigable exertions and warm interest bestowed on it by Senator Price and Mr. Radford, of L'Anse à L'eau. In addition to an excellent frost-proof building, well supplied with good water and capable of holding ten millions of fish eggs, we have now a series of commodious rearing ponds, both brackish and fresh, and secure reception houses at Little Islands Bay and River St. John, to catch and retain parent fish. The number of salmon ova laid down at the Restigouche works was 300,000. At Miramichi, only 60,000 were procured, the sudden advent of wintry weather having prevented the gathering of any considerable stock of spawn. The Bedford establishment has 600,000 salmon eggs in a thriving condition. This is an excellent beginning in Nova Scotia.

The whole number of young fish distributed last spring from the hatching of 1874 was 1,700,000. These were placed in various waters as related in the reports of the several persons in charge.

RE-STOCKING STREAMS.

An experiment in re-stocking with salmon, begun three years ago at Salmon River, about forty miles below Ottawa City, was continued last spring. Nearly 30,000 salmon fry, in healthy condition, were liberated at different places in the stream. This deposit makes, altogether, 47,000 little fish distributed in Salmon River. The guardians in charge of the stream report that the upper waters were crowded with young salmon in the autumn months, and that many were seen exceeding ten inches in length. It should be proved conclusively next season whether or not these young-

sters will emigrate to the salt-water and return, after the fashion of their kind, to the nursery waters in which they are reared though not bred. The natural instinct which leads salmon back to their native streams may possibly develop itself in a secondary manner among those artificially hatched and transferred to other waters, thus leading them, as adults, back to localities where they have passed the earlier stages of their existence.

ONTARIO SALMON.

Great numbers of the Lake Ontario salmon having been artificially bred at Newcastle, and after furnishing fry to re-stock other streams, have every year escaped into the lake, the time has arrived for testing to what extent they may now be captured as adult fish, fit for food and commerce. That they are sufficiently numerous in the vicinity is plain, for large schools of them are frequently seen by the fishermen, and quite a large number are taken in the nets used outside for lake trout. There are difficulties in the way of capturing them as early in the season and in the same manner as salmon are caught in the tidal estuaries and on the sea coast. The main difficulty is their habit of approaching the lake shores, chiefly about spawning time, when they are less valuable for market, and at a time when the law interferes with their capture. Further attempts might be made to catch them in the deep water during the summer months, and, failing which, the law should be relaxed so as to admit of fishing for them during the autumn season. I beg to suggest that a few special licenses should be offered to public competition in the ensuing season, to be used along the frontage between Toronto and Presquile.

FISH-WAYS.

Several new fish-passes have been constructed at private expense on mill-dams and other obstructions, and many existing structures have been improved and repaired. In some instances the Department has constructed additional ones, encouraged by the vast quantities of alewives and other migratory fish now returning to the streams and seeking to ascend to their sources.

SAWDUST AND MILL RUBBISH.

In addition to enforcing those sections of the Fisheries Act which relate to the obstruction and pollution of streams frequented by fish, the statute relating to sawdust and mill-offals in navigable streams was enforced wherever the urgency of abuses demanded legal interference.

PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERIOR WATERS.

The protection extended for a few years past to the inland lakes having greatly increased the fish which inhabit them, the Department felt justified in so far relaxing the restrictions hitherto adopted as to admit of fishing therein under special licenses.

during the fall and winter seasons. This measure has afforded employment to considerable numbers of people who were out of work, and would otherwise have suffered most severely from the prevalent depression. It has largely increased the supply of fresh fish in our markets, and in that respect also contributes to the relief of such of the community as suffer doubly from scarcity of work and dearth of food. There is reason to believe that by further extending it to such lakes as Memphremagog, and others which have been strictly guarded for sometime, the immediate benefit of restraints hitherto imposed will be made apparent to the residents, and may possibly convince them that the fishery laws they have done so much to frustrate are really deserving of their support.

SEINING CODFISH.

Complaints made of the injurious effects of this mode of fishing were noticed in last year's report. Since then the matter has been enquired into and the following regulation was passed by the Governor General in Council :—

“ No person shall carry on codfishing with seines at a less distance than one-half mile from any fishing grounds where fishing boats are anchored and fishermen actually engaged fishing for codfish with hooks and lines.”

It is probably too soon yet to judge of the efficiency of this relief, but the effect of the regulation has thus far proved beneficial.

TRAWLING.

This method of fishing has also formed a subject of remonstrance, and has therefore received official attention. Circulars were addressed to Fishery Officers in those localities where the practice prevails. The information and suggestions resulting from such enquiries are not sufficiently definite to warrant any general prohibition affecting the use of trawls, more properly named “bultows;” but there appear to be reasonable grounds for regulating their numbers and position in certain places where their excessive use and indiscriminate location interfere with the legitimate pursuits of other fishermen, or where peculiarities in the feeding and breeding resorts of bottom fishes render it necessary to protect the local fishings against permanent injury.

RESTORATION OF OYSTERS.

The complete exhaustion of oyster beds in some parts of the Dominion has been commented on in every report made by the undersigned since Confederation. Unless the Government shall now determine to close them against dredging for at least three years, it may be too late even to save enough to supply seed for active cultivation. It really does seem lamentable that, while the country is yearly importing vast quantities of oysters from the United States, at prices which make these nutri-

tious shell-fish an expensive luxury, the native sources from which an abundant and cheap supply might be obtained are practically abandoned to destruction.

FISHERY LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Numerous fishery regulations having been passed from time to time, some of which were either supplemented or superseded by others, it was found advisable to revise and consolidate them, and to republish them for each Province in a condensed form. This revision was an easy matter as regards Ontario and Quebec, but in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick it was attended with much difficulty, and is still in many respects incomplete. The Nova Scotia fishery laws and regulations had been left in force by the *Fisheries Act*. It was necessary therefore to repeal them by an Act of the Dominion Parliament, making provision also for certain uniform close seasons, which were formerly established by the Provincial statutes. The various County regulations handed down from municipal bodies needed to be replaced by other restrictions. In New Brunswick the existing fishery regulations likewise wanted further amendment. Occasion was also taken to suggest the imposition of a specific tax per barrel on the salmon and bass fishings, and to repeal the tax formerly levied on nets used. The rate at first fixed was \$1 per 200 lbs weight of salmon, and 50 cents on the same quantity of bass. The rates were afterwards reduced to less than one-half in consequence of the general depression of this branch of business, and at the instance of persons engaged in it.

In recommending a change in the application of this tax, the undersigned had it in view to extend by degrees, and in an accustomed shape, the system of occupying fishery stations under season licenses which already obtains in Ontario and Quebec, and which it has been the avowed policy as well as the official practice gradually to adapt, with suitable modifications, to similar holdings in other Provinces of the Dominion. The rate being reckoned in proportion to the catch, instead of being a fixed rate of license fee, was supposed to be more acceptable to the fishermen, because if their catch failed there would be little to pay, and if successful the charge be less felt.

It is very much to be regretted that the salmon and bass fishermen have taken an entirely unnecessary alarm at this change, on the extraordinary ground of its being an interference with vested rights; and notwithstanding the merely nominal charge to which the reduced rate amounts, that they have resisted payment, and placed themselves in antagonism to the regulations. This unfortunate attitude seems the more surprising when it is considered that the fisheries protection service has so greatly benefited themselves; and that by securing them by legal title in the exclusive use of the stations they respectively occupy, the Department proposes to make such benefits lasting and progressive. Whether or not these occupiers of fishery stations are sole owners of the privileges they enjoy, and are entitled to exemption from regulations to which the occupants of fishing berths in other parts of the Dominion

have always conformed, involves questions of law and policy with which it is not my province to decide. The contest thus raised is, I am firmly convinced, a grave mistake as affects their own interests, and is caused by apprehensions which are entirely groundless. There are so many and such excellent reasons why this Department and the fishermen should be in general accord respecting all measures calculated to improve the fisheries on which they themselves depend, and which form so important a source of commerce and food supply to the whole country as to induce Parliament to appropriate annually large sums of the public money, and the Government to devise and maintain a protective system ensuring their perpetual increase; that regret on account of any difficulty of this sort could not be lessened by their own failure to establish themselves in what is believed to be an illegal and unjust pretension.

PRESERVATION OF LOBSTERS.

An alarming decrease in the lobster fishery is reported by the fishery officers. It is ascribed to over production and wasteful capture of spawners and undersized lobsters. This is exactly the result apprehended in my report of 1873. The regulation adopted by the Governor General in Council on the 7th of July in that year, was fitted to preserve this valuable fishery from the destruction which had attended abusive practices on the coasts of the neighbouring States. But, as usual, the improvident greed of persons engaged in the business of catching and canning lobsters occasioned remonstrances against such wise restrictions. The parties who had embarked capital in manufacturing establishments, and the fishermen and others who profited by this extensive business, united in urging their own views and interests, and finally persuaded the Government to relax the rule and adopt another modified regulation, dated 23rd April, 1874, which has proved of no practical benefit. In referring to the attempts then being made by interested persons to modify the former prohibitions, it was stated by the undersigned that the sudden and large increase of catch in 1873 was suggestive of over production, and indicated the urgent necessity for economising and perpetuating the natural supply. The following extracts from the same report will show how clearly the injury was foreseen, and how anxiously we sought to avert it:—

“It seems that excessive fishing has exhausted the lobster fishery along the north-eastern coast of the United States; and that the enterprise which was embarked in the same has now been transferred to Canada. Such being the case, if the same indiscriminate fishing should be practised on our coasts, similar results might occur. Doubtless, for a short time all persons interested would prosper, and the country may appear to benefit by the rapid and extensive developement of this resource; but a period of re-action must necessarily ensue, commencing sooner or later in an enfeebled or exhausted condition of the fishery. If we would perpetuate such a valuable possession, it appears wiser to economise it in time than to be obliged later on to make extreme and costly endeavors to arrest its decline, or to restore it from complete exhaustion. There is nothing easier than to exhaust a shell-fish fishery, and nothing harder than to revive it. The oyster fishery of the country should serve us as a warning example. It may be regarded as nearly ruined by

"incessant working, whilst proper use of it might have preserved it to us at the least
 "as a failing industry which special efforts could reclaim. The need of some timely
 "precaution to preserve the lobster fishery seems to have induced the late Govern-
 "ment to adopt a regulation on the subject in July last. This regulation prohibits the
 "catching of immature lobsters and females in spawn, or any of less weight than one
 "and a half pounds. Remonstrances against these prohibitions have been made
 "from various quarters. The chief objections emanate from proprietors of the can-
 "ning establishments, who find their supply of raw material somewhat curtailed.
 "Minor exceptions are taken on behalf of the lobster catchers on the ground that the
 "liberation of undersized specimens entails great loss and inconvenience, and in
 "some localities the stock consisting of small sized lobsters, the limitation is entirely
 "prohibitory. An enquiry into the whole matter was made during the past season,
 "and has resulted in producing information of a valuable character which will be
 "found in the Appendices of this Report.

"It appears quite clear that some restrictions are indispensable. It is equally
 "evident that whatever form such restrictions assume, they must occasion more or
 "less of momentary inconvenience to persons affected by them, and prejudice imme-
 "diate gain. But the choice of protective means really lies between such necessary
 "and practical protection as can be attained consistently with the existence of this
 "industry on a reasonably remunerative footing. The permanence of the resource
 "demands paramount consideration. If therefore the existing regulation inevitably
 "causes some degree of inconvenience, it is very probable that any truly effective
 "substitute will prove even more obnoxious to those who are in fact interested in
 "pursuing the business unrestrictedly as to time, place, means and consequences."

The fears expressed two years ago have last year been severely confirmed. A
 falling off in the value of the lobster catch amounting to \$546,950 in a single year is
 sufficiently alarming to arrest attention. There seems to be no other remedy but an
 absolute prohibition during the principal part of the spawning season.

FRESH FISH TRADE.

Besides the improved modes of preserving fish in a fresh state, instead of pickling -
 them, which have latterly increased so greatly the traffic in fresh fish, the railway
 communications between fishing districts are fast opening up markets for the large
 quantities of winter caught fish produced in the northern and eastern parts of New
 Brunswick. Whenever the Intercolonial Railway is completed, we may expect to
 be supplied throughout the central and western sections of Canada with fresh fish in
 great abundance from tidal waters during the entire season.

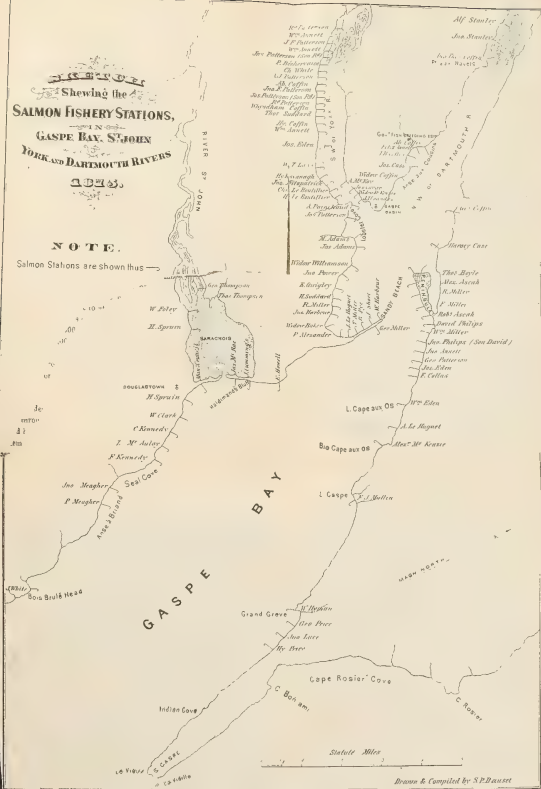
REDUCING SALMON STANDS.

The accompanying diagram shows the number of salmon stands fished in
 Gaspé Basin and estuaries. These stands are so numerous and are placed in such
 situations as seriously to obstruct the passage of salmon into the rivers. The
 natural consequence has been a steady decrease in this fishery. If these stands were
 thinned out, it would no doubt cause some temporary discontent; but ultimately the
 whole neighbourhood would be benefited. The fairest way to reduce them would
 probably be by associating together the owners of different stands and granting joint
 licenses for a reduced number of places. This plan would save the fishermen the

MAP OF
Shewing the
SALMON FISHERY STATIONS,
GASPE BAY, ST JOHN
YORK AND DARTMOUTH RIVERS
1876.

NOTE.

Salmon Stations are shown thus →



Drawn & Compiled by S.P. Dauset

greater expense of each man fishing a separate station ; and the cost being divided amongst several would result in the fishery being worked more profitably.

In some districts within the Province of Quebec the salmon fishery has increased in yield since 1868, nearly three hundred per cent., resulting from reducing the nets used in the estuaries and rivers, and protecting the fish whilst breeding. This improvement is most noticeable in the Restigouche and Moisie districts. After removing nets from the islands at the head of Chaleur Bay and from the channels of the estuary of River Restigouche, the salmon fishery in that district began immediately to improve. The same effect was observable in the River Moisie. At both places it is now clearly proved that immoderate netting is a serious hindrance to the restoration of the salmon fishery, and a positive disadvantage to the fishermen themselves. It also is quite as clearly established that a moderate quantity of nets, judiciously situated, render at once a far more profitable return to the owners and admit of maintaining a permanent stock of mature salmon. This fact has a peculiar bearing on the regulation of the salmon fishery. The occupancy of salmon stands under formal titles enables the occupiers to economize both their own capital and labor and the public property in salmon. Where the fishery is carried on in a desultory and improvident manner, under such incitements to excess as are created by contentious rivalry and the prospect of more temporary gain, it is extremely difficult to control fishery operations within reasonable bounds. But, on the other hand, where occupants can rely on the permanence of their holdings, and enjoy in successive years the benefit of their own moderation in each preceding season, the Department finds very little difficulty in controlling the pursuit. It is not easy to convince fishermen how much cheaper and more profitable it is in their own interest to conform to the same principles on which legal protection is founded and the departmental regulations are enforced. Nothing short of the plainest examples appears to be sufficient to attract their earnest attention. In the year 1859, when about 15,000 fathoms of nets were placed in the River Moisie, the salmon fishery yielded about 75,000 lbs. of fish ; and in 1873, with only 2,500 fathoms of nets in use it produced 204,000 lbs. The yield has been increasing each year while the netting was in course of restriction. These examples forcibly illustrate the difference between the results of excessive and moderate netting in salmon rivers, and should commend themselves to the people of Gaspe.

STATISTICAL RETURNS.

The decennial census enables us to test the accuracy of the annual returns procured through the Fishery Officers of the entire produce of the fisheries. But it would be much better if some machinery existed by which, in conjunction with the statements of fish exports entered in the Trade Returns, the Government could yearly ascertain with commercial accuracy the quantities and values of fish entering into domestic consumption and foreign trade. The Bill providing for an official inspection

of fish, which was originally framed by the undersigned, had for one of its leading objects an exact account of the fish caught or disposed of in each inspection district. This feature of the measure was intended to be carried out through the instrumentality of the local Fishery Officers who were to qualify themselves for the duties of Deputy Inspector in their respective divisions. It having been thought proper to withdraw the scheme of compulsory inspection of fish from the control of the Fisheries Department and place the law under administration by the Internal Revenue Department, we are now no better off than we were before as regards yearly returns of the produce of the fisheries. The Chief Inspector and his Deputies no doubt report the kinds, qualities and quantities of fish annually inspected by them, and the fees collected; but that is all. There do not appear to be any attempts made to represent the nature and extent of the fishing business, in its relations to the commerce and productive capacity of our fisheries, nor any observations made to prove the anticipated effect of an official inspection on the character and development of the trade. The undersigned ventures to suggest that some arrangement should be made between these two Departments with a view to concerted action in the matter of statistical information of an authentic and serviceable description.

FISH CULTURISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the American Fish Culturists' Association was held at New York about the middle of February next; but as Parliament had been convened at that date, it was impossible for me to attend.

It is my very pleasing duty to acknowledge the courteous presentation by the Hon. Spencer F. Baird, U. S. Commissioner of Fisheries, of another consignment of 80,000 California salmon eggs from Assistant Commissioner Stone's establishment on the Pacific coast. Also a number of eggs of land-locked salmon from the Penobscot fish-breeding works under charge of State Commissioner Atkins, at Bucksport, Maine.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PROTECTING FISH AND GAME.

A strong movement has taken place in the United States, supported by men of energy and ability, to form an International Society to protect fish and game. The objects of this Association are most praiseworthy, and the practical and vigorous manner in which its members have commenced the work certifies to their earnestness and augurs success.

The Game Laws being under control of the Provincial Government, without any official organization for their enforcement, are ineffective. It is unfortunate that no efforts are made to put these laws into practical operation. In many sections of the country the existing populations depend partly on game for subsistence; its destruction is, therefore, to them a subject of serious concern. It seems possible for the Dominion and Provincial authorities to arrange between themselves for the better

protection of wild fowl and other game, either through the agency of forest rangers or by the aid of the staff of outside officers employed in the fisheries service.

CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.

Many engagements of a more immediate and pressing nature have prevented me from attending to your wishes as regards assisting in the exhibition of Canadian fishes at the Philadelphia Centennial next year. Having addressed to you a special report on the subject, it is unnecessary now to say more.

STEAM CRUISER.

The steamer *Glendon* which was last year employed in the service of protecting the fisheries of the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, in place of the Government schooner *La Canadienne*, will be replaced in future by the steamer *Lady Head*. It is suggested that this expedition should start from Quebec on the opening of navigation, so as to reach the Gulf in time for the spring herring fishery at Magdalen Islands and Chaleur Bay.

LEASING AND LICENSING FISHERY STATIONS.

It will be recollected that, in accordance with the policy of this Department in the past, the undersigned has persistently urged the further extension of this system to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The reasons why it should be done, and the circumstances which render the present an opportune occasion to establish some kind of uniformity in the system of controlling these fishing privileges under the Fisheries Act, are so fully set forth in my previous reports that it appears most convenient to refer attention to them again.

Besides securing fishermen in the exclusive enjoyment of certain fishing privileges and obviating all disputes, the plan of leasing or licensing enables us to dispense with the numberless and cumbrous regulations which at present exist, as conditions could be embodied in the leases or licenses equivalent to prohibitory or directory regulations. This is by no means one of the least of its advantages. There seems to have got abroad an erroneous idea that the adoption of this system means interfering with the actual occupants of fishing stations. It means no such thing; but on the contrary, it is meant thus to render permanent the holdings which at present may be questionable, and at best are only temporary.

Attention is recalled to the following observations in the report for 1873:—

“The Fisheries Act evidently contemplates the system of granting titles for fishing privileges as a basis of administration. Certain of its provisions are predicated on the supposition that leasing and licensing would become general, providing always for necessary exceptions as to legal titles, prior occupancy and preferential claims.

“It is unnecessary, after several years of its beneficial operation, even though

" but partially carried out, to explain at length its advantages. Primarily, it systematizes the fishing business, and is auxiliary to protective measures for preserving and increasing the fisheries, and it also induces private expenditure both in guarding and improving the streams, which outlay would otherwise be required to be defrayed from public funds. Secondly, it promotes investment of capital and gives permanence and security to fishing industries, enhancing the value to both individual fishermen and the public of fishing privileges which hitherto had but a fitful existence and were fast becoming altogether unproductive. Revenue is only an incident and not a main object. * * * * *

" It may be advisable to act first on the numerous applications which are filed, and in other instances where no adverse circumstances or conflicting demands exist. Attention should be directed to carrying out this system with every regard for the obvious desirability of enlisting the sympathies of the public and promoting the truest interests of the fishermen. There should be a thorough examination into each case; and the greatest possible care and precaution should be observed in order to avoid doing violence to the prejudices, or injury to the position and interests of persons affected thereby. Scrupulous regard will require to be paid to priority of occupation and recognized user. A careful distinction must be observed between the deep-sea and inland, and the estuary and river fishings. These latter should alone, in my humble opinion, be subjected (for the present at least) to the system of occupation under lease or license.

" The undersigned considers it undesirable to anticipate the production of direct revenue from fishery rentals, the rates of which are, for the most part, nominal. Any system of regulation and economic use of fishing privileges under titles may be more profitably adapted as an auxiliary to protection of inland fisheries, and to enhance their productive value. It is not improbable, however, that in due course of time sufficient funds may be derived to render the service self-sustaining."

RIPARIAN CLAIMS.

Many of the occupants of salmon fishing stations in New Brunswick claim exclusive ownership and the free use of salmon fishery privileges in the waters opposite to their own lands. Claims of riparians to fishing rights connected with the foreshores have been frequently adjudicated upon in the Courts of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. These tribunals have invariably maintained that the soil of public navigable waters belongs to the Crown, and the right of fishing belongs to the public. Private individuals have, on numerous occasions, claimed them both, but have entirely failed to establish such claims. The Crown grants of lands on navigable streams are bordered by the water's edge, and in tidal frontages by high-water mark. In the case of some of the Seigniories bounded by the River St. Lawrence, the right of fishing within described limits was expressly granted by the Crown of France to the Seigniors; but unless it was so specifically conveyed, even these lordly proprietors failed to establish any legal claim to the exclusive use of fishing privileges in connection with their lands, notwithstanding that they had for from sixty to two hundred years exercised such assumed ownership, collected dues from fishermen and tenants, and bought and sold fishing privileges. It was at the express instance of a Senator, who was himself owner of a Seignior in which exclusive fishing rights existed under Crown title, and who desired to ensure such grants against any obliga-

tion to take and pay for leases or licenses, that the words excepting "where the exclusive "right of fishing does not already exist by law," were inserted into the *Fisheries Act* of 1868. This reservation was quite superfluous; but, as a distinct exception limited to special titles, it tends to strengthen the rule. The whole tenor of that statute is an authoritative denial of any other private claims to fishing privilege, either absolute or incidental, express or implied, in the public navigable waters of the Dominion. Sections 3 and 19 are remarkably explicit in this respect.

There have been in modern times no grants of exclusive fishing rights to individuals made by the British Crown similar to those formerly made by the French. It has always been accepted and acted upon as a recognized principle in administering the Fishery Laws, that the fisheries are a public property which the Crown is now empowered by Act of Parliament to control temporarily, but not in any case to alienate. In exercising this authority the leading object of all concerned has been to preserve and improve these public fisheries. The next aim has been to promote the interests of practical fishermen, and to protect them in the just use of the fishing privileges secured to them by Common Law. And last, though by no means least, the Government has scrupulously endeavoured to give effect to the equitable claims of all persons who have occupied or purchased either lands adjoining or forming fishing stations, or fishing privileges co-terminous with their frontages. Peculiarities of situation, of special circumstances, prior occupancy and accustomed usage have all received special consideration. But extravagant and illegal assumptions, altogether inconsistent with public rights and incompatible with due regulation of the fisheries, have necessarily been set aside. The parties, therefore, who now lay claim to exclusive rights of fishing in front of their own lands ought either to be required to prove some express legal conveyance of fishery privileges from public authority, or be made to understand that they are fighting with shadows. Taking licenses or paying a tax on nets or on catch could not by any possibility invalidate a legal title where such exists, nor constitute an attornment to the Crown. If, on the other hand, they possess no exclusive deed, they should seek to procure rather than strive to evade titles for the sole use of their stations. There is in neither case any deprivation of private right. And whether absolute owners of the privileges or licensees by preference, they should be willing to contribute a fair percentage towards the cost of rendering the advantages they enjoy permanently and increasingly valuable. As the matter now stands they seem to be ready and eager to spend untold money in litigation, where no injustice and no interference whatever with their lawful claims are intended; but are "unable and unwilling," as stated in several petitions to Parliament and the Crown, to pay for peaceable occupation, protection and increase. The salmon fishers and riparians of Gaspé and Bonaventure, and on the Quebec side of Restigouche, who once considered themselves equally entitled to hold their fishing stands free of title and of charge, have been paying license fees for years past, and have enjoyed the protection and increase

incident to the system, might justly complain if mere assertions of right on the part of their neighbours were allowed to prevail in securing exemption from burdens, however slight, which they have borne from the outset, whilst these other salmon fishermen have enjoyed concurrently with themselves the benefits of public organization and outlay.

CONCLUSION.

It is my pleasing duty once more to acknowledge the efficiency of the Office Staff and outside Fishery Officers more immediately under my own direction, to whose individual zeal and industry the successful operation of the Fishery Laws and the welfare of the Service are much indebted.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

W. F. WHITCHER,
Commissioner of Fisheries.

APPENDIX No. I

SCHEDULE of Fishery Officers in the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, appointed under the Fisheries Act [1868], with Districts, Post Office Address, Salary, &c., &c., distinguishing those who, being Fishery Overseers, are instructed to act *ex officio* as Magistrates, from those who act in the capacity of Fishery Wardens, and do not exercise magisterial powers.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer. or Warden.	Salary.
				\$ cts.
Henry Hunt	Larue's Island.....	Rockport.....	Warden ...	20 00
John Wallace.....	Lindoe Island.....	Lansdowne.....	do	40 00
John Mooney	Brockville to Cornwall.....	Prescott.....	Overseer...	100 00
Peter Kiel.....	Wolfe and Amherst Islands, and waters around down to Brockville..	Wolfe Island.....	do	200 00
David Conger.....	Carrying Place to Point Peter..	Wellington.....	do	100 00
Peter Huff, jun.....	West Point to Point Peter.....	Pictou.....	do	50 00
Wm. A. Palen.....	Point Peter to Petticoat Point.....	Point Peter, Cherry Valley.....	do	50 00
John G. Hicks.....	Petticoat Point to Black River..	South Bay.....	do	100 00
Wm. Plews.....	Black River to Bongard's Wharf.....	Prinyer	do	100 00
Charles Gilchrist..	Rice Lake and part of Lake Ontario fronting on the County of North- umberland.....	Port Hope.....	do	400 00
Jos. L. Thompson..	Cole's Ferry to Prescott.....	Brockville.....	Warden ...	50 00
Hugh Thompson...	Westerly limit, County South Leeds to Cole's Ferry, and islands opposite in St. Lawrence River, including Howe Island.....	Gananoque.....	Overseer...	50 00
David Hamilton...	Charleston Lake, Gananoque Lake and River	Charleston, Lake P. O.	Warden ...	50 00
A. J. Harrington...	Lake Scugog (west side).....	Port Perry.....	Overseer...	50 00
John McAllister...	do (east side).....	Casarea.....	Warden ...	50 00
Hugh Ralston.....	Lake shore and inland waters, Coun- ties of Lennox and Addington.....	Napanee.....	Overseer...	200 00
Charles Wilkins...	Waters of the Bay of Quinte fronting on County of Hastings, and from Carrying Place eastward to Mill Point in the Co. of Prince Edward..	Belleville.....	do	200 00
Samuel Wilmot....	Toronto to Presqu'isle.....	Newcastle	Officer in charge of fish breed- ing estab- lishment at New- castle.....	1,200 00
John W. Kerr.....	Whitby Harbor to Port Maitland.....	Hamilton.....	Overseer...	500 00
James G. Wilcox...	River Credit.....	Port Credit.....	do	50 00
J. A. Backhouse...	That part of the Counties of Norfolk and Haldimand fronting on Lake Erie.....	St. Williams.....	do	150 00
Alex. McBride.....	That part of Lake Erie pointing on the County of Elgin.....	Port Burwell	do	50 00
John McMichael...	Lake Erie frontage, County of Kent..	Rond Eau.	do	50 00
Peter McCann	From London to Thamesville on the Thames River.....	London.....	do	100 00
	Carried forward.....			3,910 00

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward</i>			\$ cts. 3,910 00
E. Boismier.....	Baptiste Creek on Lake St. Clair, to Point Pelée	Sandwich.....	Overseer..	200 00
Zeneas Quick	Point Pelée Island	Kingsville.....	Warden...	50 00
D. McMaster.....	Baby's Point, on River St. Clair, to Kettle Point, on Lake Huron.....	Sarnia.....	Overseer...	200 00
A. C. McKinnon...	Kettle Point to Point Clarke, Lake Huron.....	Goderich.....	do	100 00
James Muir.	Point Clark to Cape Hurd, including adjacent Islands.....	Port Elgin.....	do	100 00
Geo. S. Miller.....	Owen Sound to Cape Hurd.....	Owen Sound.....	do	100 00
James Patton.....	Collingwood to Point Rich.....	Collingwood.....	do	100 00
Samuel Fraser.....	Point Cockburn to mouths of Rivers Severn and Muskoka (the former included)	Midland.....	do	100 00
Farquhar McRae...	Sydenham River and Lake St. Clair, from Baptiste Creek to Baby's Point.	Wallaceburg.....	do	150 00
Geo. B. Abrey.....	Byng Inlet to Thessalon River.....	Little Current.....	do	100 00
Wm. McGown.....	From Moose Deer Point to Byng Inlet, Georgian Bay.....	Parry Sound.....	Warden ...	50 00
Jos. Wilson.....	Thessalon River to head of Lake Superior.....	Sault Ste. Marie.....	Overseer...	100 00
James Dickson.....	Lake Superior extending from Slate Islands to mouth of Pigeon River...	Prince Arthur's Land- ing.....	do	100 00
Alex. McKenzie....	Lake Simcoe and tributaries.....	Barrie.....	do	50 00
George Cochrane..	Inland waters, County Peterboro' in- cluding Pigeon, Deer, Salmon-Trout, Stony, Sturgeon & Chemong Lakes.	Lakefield.	do	200 00
Daniel Bowen.....	Upper Division or East Riding Co. Peterborough, comprising waters of Gull and Burnt Rivers and tribu- taries, together with Drag, Eagle, Moose, Redstone, Crooked and other lakes within such limits.....	Haliburton.....	do	100 00
James McFadden...	Mississippi River and Lake	Carleton Place	do	30 00
Jno. Lyon.....	Madawaska River and Lake des Chats	Arnprior.....	do	50 00
James Sutherland..	Inland waters, N.R. County Victoria, north of Sturgeon Lake and above Fenelon Falls.....	Victoria Road Station..	do	100 00
John McGregor....	Rideau Lakes.....	Westport.....	Warden ...	75 00
Henry Lawe.....	Grand River, from mouth to Caledonia	Dunnville	Overseer...	100 00
Henry Griffiths	Grand River and tributaries from Brantford upwards.....	Brantford.	do	100 00
Wm. E. Foot	Lakes Muskoka, Rosseau, Joseph, Lake of Bays and the Maganetawan River	Bracebridge	do	100 00
	<i>Total</i>			6,265 00

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Napoléon Lavoie...	Lower St. Lawrence River and Gulf..	Gaspé Basin (in sum- mer), L'Islet (in winter)	Officer in charge of Gov. st'm- er for pro- tection of Fisheries..	1,200 00
C. Caron.....	Point Lévis, to River Ouelle.....	L'Islet.....	Overseer...	200 00
H. Martin.....	River Ouelle to Rimouski.....	Rimouski.	do	200 00
L. E. Grondin.....	Rimouski to Matane.....	do	do	200 00
George Gagnon...	Inland waters, County Temiscouata..	St. Epiphane.....	Warden ...	30 00
	<i>Carried forward</i>			1,830 00

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.—*Continued.*

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary. \$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			1,830 00
Alfred Blais	Lake Metapedia and River Matapedia to Causapscah.....	Causapscah.....	Overseer...	100 00
J. J. Letourneau...	Cape Chatte to River Ste. Anne des Monts.....	Ste. Anne des Monts ...	do	100 00
P. Vibert, jun.....	York, Dartmouth and St. John Rivers, Gaspé Basin to Point Maquereau....	Gaspé Basin	Fishery officer in charge of fish-breeding establishment at Gaspé Basin.....	500 00
John Phelan	Point Maquereau to Paspebiac Point.	Port Daniel.....	Overseer...	50 00
R. W. H. Dimock ..	Paspebiac Point to Maguasha Point..	New Richmond.....	do	200 00
John Mowat.....	Maguasha Point to River Matapedia including same, and Restigouche River from Mission Point upwards, including tributaries in Counties of Bonaventure and Restigouche.	Matapedia	do	300 00
Daniel Rosa.....	Lakes Beauport, St. Charles and adjacent Lakes.....	Quebec.....	Warden ...	50 00
L. P. Huot.....	Lakes Philippe, Gagné and adjacent Lakes, and the Island of Orleans....	Chateau Richer.....	do ...	100 00
J. E. Demeule.....	River du Gouffre to Canard River, including inland Lakes adjacent to Murray Bay and St. Paul's Bay	Murray Bay.....	do ...	50 00
F. Saillant.....	Waters in Counties of Chicoutimi and Saguenay.....	Tadousac.....	Overseer...	150 00
Job Bilodeau.....	Lake St. John and tributaries, Upper Saguenay.....	Metabetchouan.....	Warden ...	50 00
Joseph Boily.....	Escoumains to Bersimis.....	Mille Vaches.....	do ...	50 00
G. L. Duguay.....	North Shore, from Manicouagan to Point des Monts, including Beecscie, Mistassini and Godbout Rivers.....	Godbout.....	do ...	100 00
F. Thivierge.....	North Shore River St. Lawrence from Point des Monts to Bay des Rochers, including Trinity and Pentecost Rivers.....	Montmagay	do ...	150 00
G. Mathurin.....	Moisie District, from Point Jambon to Point St. Charles, including Moisie River.....	Moisie	Overseer...	150 00
D. B. McGie	Esquimaux Point to Sheldrake River..	Esquimaux Point.....	do ...	100 00
P. Gendreau.....	Watsheeshoo District, from Atecpetal Bay West to Little Watsheeshoo River East.....	Natashquan.....	do ...	150 00
G. Boulet.....	Natashquan District, from River Nabisippi to Point Kegashca.	Natashquan	do ...	100 00
J. Legouvé.....	St. Augustine Division, from Cape Whittle to Checatca.....	Pacachoo	Warden ...	100 00
W. H. Whitley.....	Bonne Esperance Division, from Checatca to Blanc Sablon.....	Bonne Espérance.....	do ...	50 00
J. J. Fox.....	Magdalen Islands.....	Amherst.....	Overseer...	50 00
W. C. Willis.....	Waters in District of St. Francis.....	Sherbrooke.....	do ...	150 00
H. W. Austin.....	District of Montreal and Richelieu, together with Richelieu River and tributaries.....	Chambly.....	do ...	200 00
J. B. Chevalier.....	Richelieu River, from St John to Lake Champlain	St. Jean, Iberville.....	do ...	100 00
P. E. Luke.....	Mississquoi Bay in Lake Champlain and Pike River.....	Phillipsburg	do ...	50 00
Wm. Clyde.....	Chateauguay River and tributaries....	Huntingdon.....	do	50 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			5,030 00

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.—*Continued.*

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 5,030 00
Andrew Watt.....	River Chateauguay, from mouth to village.....	Chateauguay Basin.....	Overseer..	50 00
Alexander Beaton.....	The inland waters in rear of the County of Argenteuil.....	Lost River, P.O., Harrington.....	do ..	30 00
L. J. Loranger.....	The inland waters of the County of Terrebonne.....	St. Sauveur.....	do ..	100 00
	<i>Total.....</i>			5,210 00

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

P. S. Hamilton.....	Nova Scotia	Halifax.....	Inspector..	1,400 00
W. H. Rogers.....	do	Amherst.....	Fishery Officer...	800 00
	<i>Annapolis County.</i>			
W. T. Carty.....	Annapolis County.....	Annapolis.....	Overseer..	120 00
Miner Clark.....	Laurencetown Bridge to Clarke's Ferry	Bridgetown	Warden ...	25 00
J. Durland.....	Laurencetown Bridge to County Line, including Nictaux River.....	Laurencetown	do ..	25 00
Chas. Barteaux.....	Nictaux River.....	Wilmot	do ..	25 00
A. D. Munroe.....	Annapolis River.....	Nictaux.....	do ..	25 00
J. H. Pineo.....	Lovett's Brook.....	Round Hill	do ..	25 00
Thos. Devers.....	Annapolis and Languille Rivers	Annapolis	do ..	25 00
	<i>Antigonish County.</i>			
A. W. McDonald...	Antigonish County.....	Antigonish.....	Overseer..	125 00
Lachlan Cameron...	From mouth of Harbor to foot of Marsh, thence up Tracadie stream to lake, from Marsh up to Monastery Brook, including French Settlement Brook and Tarbitts.....	Tracadie	Warden ...	25 00
J. R. Aymer	From mouth of Harbor to Forks, from thence on the Pomquet River to V. Chisholm's Mills, and from Forks on the Black River to Falls.....	Pomquet Forks, Antigonish	do ..	25 00
Albert Randall.....	From shore to lake.....	Bayfield, W.O.....	do ..	15 00
Colin Chisholm.....	From Antigonish Harbor to McWilliams' or St. Andrew's Bridge.....	Lower South River, Antigonish	do ..	25 00
Angus McDonald...	From McWilliam's Bridge to Frazer's Bridge, including Big Brook.....	Upper South River, Antigonish.....	do ..	30 00
John Cumming	From Frazer's Bridge to County line at head of lake.....	Upper South River, Antigonish.....	do ..	20 00
John Dexter.....	From Antigonish Harbor (foot of marsh) to Trotter's Mill Brook, thence up said Brook to Trotter's Mill, including both branches, of West River and Bailey's Brook.....	Antigonish	do ..	30 00
Donald Chisholm...	From Trotter's Mill Brook to W. Thompson's Dam.....	Salt Springs, Antigonish.....	do ..	25 00
Alex. Macadam	From Thompson's Dam to Addington Forks' Bridge.....	West River, Addington Forks, Antigonish ..	do ..	25 00
Hugh Cameron	From Forks' Bridge to Pinkeytown Bridge, including James River and Beaver River.....	Addington, W.O.....	do ..	25 00
Duncan Fraser.....	From Pinkeytown Bridge to Stewart's Mill	Ohio	do ..	20 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			2,860 00

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 2,860 00
	<i>Cape Breton County.</i>			
Francis Quinan.....	From Low Point to South Head of Cow Bay, and north side of Mira Bay, including Salmon River and Sydney River.....	Sydney.....	Overseer...	120 00
Anthony Spencer.....	Mira River, Black Brook.....	Mira Gut, W.O.....	Warden...	25 00
Thos. Burke.....	Mira Bridge and Trout Brook.....	Mira Gut, W.O., Bridge- town.....	do	25 00
Jno. McEachen.....	Salmon River.....	Grand Mira, Arichat...	do	25 00
Thos. Moore.....	Balls and Leeche's Creeks.....	North Sydney.....	do	20 00
Donald McDonald.....	Sydney River and Forks.....	Lingan.....	do	20 00
Alex. McLean.....	Mill Brook.....	Mill Brook.....	do	20 00
York Barrington.....	North of East Bay to head of Sydney River, including part of Boularderie Island.....	Sydney Mines.....	Overseer...	120 00
Alex. McDonald.....	South of East Bay to Salmon River.....	East Bay.....	do	120 00
Allan McAdam.....	Eskasoni.....	Eskasoni.....	Warden...	25 00
Angus Morrison.....	Marion Bridge, Mira.....	Marion Bridge, Mira.....	do	25 00
Denis Murphy.....	Ponds, Sydney Mines.....	Ponds, Sydney Mines.....	do	25 00
D. McDonald.....	Salmon Holes, Sydney Forks.....	Sydney.....	do	25 00
M. McLellan.....	Rory Brack's Brook.....	Rory Brack's Brook.....	do	25 00
P. Keefe.....	North-West Brook, Grand Lake and tributaries.....	Lingan.....	do	25 00
Don'd McCormack.....	Leitch's Creek and George's River.....	Leitch's Creek W.O.....	do	25 00
	<i>Colchester County.</i>			
Wm. Blair.....	Colchester County, South Division.....	Onslow.....	Overseer...	100 00
G. N. Christie.....	Salmon River.....	Truro.....	Warden...	25 00
Samuel Frame.....	Shubenacadie River.....	Shubenacadie River.....	do	25 00
R. J. Pollock.....	Stewiacke River (lower portion).....	Lower Stewiacke.....	Overseer...	75 00
George Fulton.....	Stewiacke River (upper portion).....	Stewiacke River, Brook- field.....	Warden...	25 00
J. Bonyman.....	French River and Mill Brook.....	New Annan.....	Overseer...	40 00
J. W. Davison.....	Colchester County, North Division.....	Upper Economy.....	do	100 00
J. Urquhart.....	Wagh's River.....	Tatamagouche River.....	Warden...	50 00
W. McElheney.....	De Bert River.....	Londonderry.....	do	25 00
Henry Urquhart.....	Folly River.....	do	do	25 00
Hy. M. Fulton.....	Portapique River.....	Portapique W.O.....	do	25 00
George Moore.....	Economy River.....	Economy.....	do	25 00
Mat. G. Murray.....	Salmon River.....	Truro.....	do	25 00
William Winton.....	Lower Stewiacke River.....	Lower Stewiacke.....	do	25 00
George Ambrose.....	do do	do	do	25 00
	<i>Cumberland County.</i>			
Isaac J. Hingley.....	Cumberland County, Eastern Div- ision, embracing all streams empty- ing into the Straits of Northumber- land.....	Oxford.....	Overseer...	100 00
Oliver Fillmore.....	River Philip, Hanam's Falls, upwards.....	River Philip.....	Warden...	25 00
John W. Moore.....	do do downwards.....	do	do	25 00
Jer. Brownwell.....	Shinimicas River.....	Shinimicas, Goose R.....	do	25 00
Asa Fillmore.....	River Philip.....	River Philip.....	do	25 00
James King.....	Cumberland County, Western Div- ision, including all streams flowing into the Bay of Fundy.....	Amherst.....	Overseer...	100 00
David Corbett.....	Laplauche and Nappan Rivers.....	do	Warden...	25 00
Moses Harrison.....	Maccan River.....	Maccan W.O.....	do	25 00
John H. Barnes.....	River Hebert.....	River Hebert.....	do	25 00
Francis L. Jenks.....	Parrshoro' Head.....	Parrshoro'.....	do	25 00
W. C. Rindress.....	Wallace River.....	Wallace.....	do	30 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			4,575 00

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
				\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward</i>			4,575 00
	<i>Cumberland County.—Continued.</i>			
Elijah Fowler.....	Diligent, Ramshead and Fox Rivers, including fisheries from Partridge Island to Spencer Island	Diligent River, Parrs- boro'.....	Warden....	30 00
	<i>Digby County.</i>			
J. H. Morehouse...	Digby County	Hillsburg.....	Overseer...	120 00
William Odell.....	Joggins River.....	Digby.....	Warden ..	25 00
J. M. Devault.....	Salmon River.....	Salmon River, W.O....	do ...	25 00
Lochlin McKay.....	St. Mary's Bay.....	St. Mary's Bay, W.O...	do ...	25 00
Robert Journey.....	Sissaboo River.....	Weymouth.....	do ...	25 00
J. P. Thibodeau.....	Metaghan River and Comeau's Brook	Metaghan River.....	do ...	25 00
Holland E. Payson	Brier and Long Island.....	Brier Island.....	Overseer ..	50 00
Louis A. Melançon	West Division, Digby County.....	Clare.	do ...	75 00
	<i>Guysborough County.</i>			
James A. Tory.....	Guysborough County.....	Guysborough.....	Overseer...	150 00
James Cook	Salmon River, from mouth to Gra- ham's West Line.....	Salmon River, W.O....	Warden ...	25 00
James Cahill.....	From Graham's West Line to foot of Neil's Lake, including North Branch and Lake.....	Salmon River, W.O....	do ...	20 00
Charles Kenny.....	From foot of Neil's Lake to Beaver Dam Lake, inclusive, and all the Lakes through which it passes.....	Salmon River, West Branch, Guysboro'...	do ...	15 00
Donald Gunn.....	From mouth of Scott's Place to Country Harbor Lake, including Gunn's Brook, from Main River to Hurley's Lake.....	Cross Roads.....	do ...	30 00
William Pride.....	From mouth of St. Mary's River to Sinclair's Point, including stream from Wine Harbor to Lake	Sherbrooke, St. Mary's	do ...	30 00
Thomas McKeen...	From Forks to County line, includ- ing McQueen's Mill and Brook to Lake.....	Melrose.	do ...	30 00
Edward Jordan.....	From Forks to Indian-man's Brook ...	Glenelg	do ...	30 00
Robert McKay.....	From head of tide to head of Inter- vale on the North Branch, and to Cameron's Mill on the Valley Branch	Guysborough, Inter- vale, W.O.....	do ...	15 00
James R. Bruce.....	From mouth of Clam Harbor River to Upper Falls.....	Guysborough.....		10 00
James Nickerson...	From Beach to Falls, including North West Brook.....	New Harbor, W.O.....	do ...	15 00
Allan McQuarry...	St. Mary's River	St. Mary's River, Sher- brook.....	do ...	40 00
John McDaniel.....	District of St. Mary's.....	Sherbrook.....	Overseer...	100 00
Adam Kirk.....	St. Mary's River, extending from Alex. Ross' (above still waters) to Hugh Halters', on the West River...	Glenelg.....	Warden ...	30 00
	<i>Halifax County.</i>			
Wm. Anderson.....	Halifax County, East Division, Dart- mouth to Ecum Secum.....	Musquodoboit Harbor..	Overseer...	150 00
James Blakely	From Ship Harbor to Chezzetcook, inclusive	Ship Harbor.....	Warden ...	40 00
	<i>Carried forward</i>			5,705 00

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 5,705 00
	<i>Halifax County.—Continued.</i>			
William Hall.....	Sheet Harbor	Sheet Harbor	do ...	40 00
John Fitzgerald....	Halifax Harbor to Margaret Bay, Portuguese Cove.....	Portuguese Cove.....	Overseer...	150 00
Archibald Kidston..	From Peggy's Cove to Torrance Bay, Nine Mile and Prospect Rivers.....	Spryfield	Warden ...	40 00
Nathaniel Mason...	From Hubbert's to Peggy's Cove, Margaret Bay, Ingraham and Indian Rivers	Margaret Bay, Peggy's Cove, W.O.....	do ...	40 00
Lewis P. Fairbanks	Shubenacadie Canal	Dartmouth	Overseer...	No salary.
Joseph Hamilton...	Sackville River.....		Warden ...	40 00
Donald McClean...	Chezzecook River.....	Chezzecook River.....	do ...	40 00
Donald McDonald...	Laurencetown	Laurencetown....	do ...	40 00
	Ecum Secum.....	Ecum Secum.....	do ...	40 00
Henry Balcum.....	Salmon River.....	Salmon River.....	do ...	40 00
John McCurdy....	Middle Musquodoboit.....		do ...	40 00
Patrick Hughes....	Tangier River.....	Tangier River.....	do ...	40 00
Neil McLean.....	Pennant River.....	Pennant River....	do ...	40 00
H. P. Mosher.....	Mosher's River.....	Mosher's River.....	do ...	40 00
	<i>Hants County.</i>			
P. S. Burnham.....	Hants County, Western Division, to Western County Line to Walton....	Windsor	Overseer...	100 00
John W. Dinsmore	Shubenacadie River from Stewiacke River to Halifax County line.....	Shubenacadie	Warden ...	30 00
James Mosher.....	Rivers Meander and Hebert, from mouth to source	Brooklyn	do ...	30 00
T. B. O'Brien.....	East Division from Walton to Col- chester line	Maitland	Overseer...	100 00
Joseph Mosher.....	Kennetcook River from its mouth to head of tide.....	Newport.....	Warden ...	50 00
James M. O'Brien..	Walton and Kennetcook Rivers.....	Maitland	do ...	30 00
	<i>Inverness County.</i>			
Hugh Gillis.....	Inverness County, East Division.....	Forks, Margaree.....	Overseer...	100 00
Murdoch A. Ross..	do do	N. E. Margaree.....	do ...	100 00
Peter Coady.....	From mouth of Margaree River to South-west Chapel	S.W. Margaree, W.O...	do ...	25 00
Neil McKay.....	Upper waters and tributaries, Margaree River	Margaree River, Mabou River Inhabitants.	Warden....	25 00
John Cameron.....	Inverness County, Western Division..	River Inhabitants.	Overseer...	100 00
John Meagher.....	Mabou River	Mabou.....	Warden ...	25 00
Michael McDonald..	River Dennis.....	River Dennis, W.O.....	do ...	25 00
Donald McDonald..	River Inhabitants	River Inhabitants, W.O	do ...	25 00
Angus Cameron ...	do do	do do	do ...	25 00
A. McLellan.....	do do	Broad Cove.....	do ...	25 00
Hugh Cameron.....	do do	S.W. Mabou.....	do ...	25 00
James McCarry.....	Ainslie Lake	Margaree	do ...	25 00
Kenneth McKenzie	Crowdis Bridge to head of river.....	Big Intervale, N. E. Margaree.....	do ...	25 00
Malcolm McLeod...	do do	do do	do ...	25 00
Mark Crowdis	From Crowdis Bridge to Forks, North- east Margaree River	do do ...	do ...	25 00
George Ingraham..	From Crowdis Bridge to Forks, North- east Margaree River.....	do do ...	do ...	25 00
John Carroll.....	From Margaree Harbour to South-west Chapel.....	S.W. Margaree.....	do ...	25 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			7,325 00

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.—*Continued.*

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 7,325 00
	<i>King's County.</i>			
Adolphus Bishop.....	King's County.....	Kentville.....	Overseer..	125 00
John E. Starr.....	do	Port William.....	do	250 00
W. McIntyre.....	Annapolis River.....	Kentville	Warden ...	30 00
Irad Benjamin	Gasperaux.....	Gasperaux.....	do	20 00
Jno. Buchanan	do	do	do	20 00
	<i>Lunenburg County.</i>			
Geo. Redden	Lunenburg County, East Division, Middle, Gold, Martins and Musha- mush Rivers.....	Chester.....	Overseer..	100 00
Geo. Moland.....	Eastern River.....	do	Warden ...	25 00
Jas. Corkum.....	Middle River.....	do	do	25 00
Wm. Mosher.....	Lower Gold River	do	do	25 00
John Hutt.....	Middle Gold River.....	Beech Hill, Chester.....	do	25 00
Edward Boylan	Gold River, Upper.....	New Ross	do	25 00
Jas. Langille	Martin's River.....	Chester.....	do	25 00
Hy. S. Jost.....	Lunenburg County, West Division ..	Lunenburg.....	Overseer..	100 00
Chas. Pernette.....	From mouth of Lahave River to Wilkie's Cove.....	do	Warden ...	25 00
Jno. Artz.....	Wilkie's Cove to Henry Koch's.....	Bridgewater	do	25 00
Jas. Mossman	From Henry Koch's to Knock's.....	Lunenburg	do	25 00
Edward Morgan.....	Knock's to source of Lahave River ..	Lahave River, New Germany, W. O.....	do	25 00
John Andrews.....	Mushamush River.....	Mahone Bay	do	25 00
Geo. A. Nesbit.....	Petite River, mouth to Wallace Brook	Petite River	do	25 00
Eli Hebb.....	Petite River, from Wallace Brook to source	Hebb's Cross, West Conquerall.....	do	25 00
William Craft.....	East Gold River, from Bougald's Point to Gold River Branch, thence to Clarke's, Clinton's and Henry's Lakes.....	Chester Basin.....	do	25 00
	<i>Pictou County.</i>			
John McDonald.....	Pictou County, East Division, in- cluding Sutherland's East, French and Barney's Rivers, Bailey's Brook and shore fishery from Pictou Har- bor, Eastward to County Line.....	Ponds, W. O	Overseer..	170 00
J. McKay.....	Barney's River	Barney's River, W. O.....	Warden ...	25 00
Donald Rankin.....	Sutherland River	New Glasgow	do	25 00
William Stewart	French River	French River	do	25 00
Dan McLean.....	Bailey's Brook.....	Bailey's Brook, W. O ..	do	30 00
Thos. Graham	Pictou County, West Division, in- cluding Middle, West, Cariboo, Toney and John Rivers.....	New Glasgow	Overseer..	140 00
John Turner.....	French River	French River	Warden ...	25 00
Wm. Smith.....	East River	East River	do	25 00
Robert Archibald.....	Middle River	Middle River	do	25 00
Wm. Evans.....	West River	West River	do	25 00
A. McKenzie.....	Toney River	Toney River.....	do	25 00
David Langille	River John	River John	do	25 00
George McKenzie.....	Cariboo River	Cariboo River	do	25 00
John McDonald.....	Barney's River, from McDonald's Bridge to Head	Barney's River, W. O.....	do	25 00
P. Delaney	East River, from Iron Bridge to Grant's Factory, from tide to Iron Bridge Coal Mine	Churchville	do	25 00
William Frazer	Grant's Factory to East Branch Lake	Bridgeville	do	25 00
Donald Frazer.....	Fork and West Branch Lake	Hopewell	do	25 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			9,010 00

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 9,019 00
	<i>Queen's County.</i>			
Samuel T.N. Sellon	Queen's County.....	Liverpool.....	Overseer...	150 00
Stephen Clements..	Fort Point to Salmon Rocks, Milton Bridge, on Liverpool River.....	do.....	Warden...	25 00
Theodosius Ford...	Milton Bridge up to Port Liverpool River.....	Milton.....	do...	50 00
William Buchanan	Salmon Rock to Puddingpan Island, around the Coast.....	Liverpool.....	do...	20 00
Henry Hooker.....	Puddingpan Island to Toby's Island, up Port Medway River, to Dog Cove	Port Medway.....	do...	30 00
John Fitzgerald...	From Steam Mills to Salter's Falls on Port Medway River.....	Mill Village.....	do...	30 00
Barnabas Miles.....	Salter's Falls to Pawn Hook on Port Medway River.....	Greenfield, W.O.....	do...	20 00
Stephen Smith.....	Pawn Hook to Brookfield.....	Liverpool.....	do...	20 00
Jonathan Smith...	Fort Point to Western Head, Liver- pool Harbor.....	do.....	do...	15 00
James Farquhar...	Western Head, Liverpool Harbor, to Broad River, Port Mouton and Port Joli.....	do.....	do...	30 00
Solomon Lonas.....	Port Medway River.....	Mill Village.....	do...	30 00
	<i>Richmond County.</i>			
Duncan Cameron..	Eastern Division, from River Bour- geoise to East Boundary of County, including said river.....	St. Peter's.....	Overseer...	
Alex. Urquhart.....	Grand River.....	Grand River, W.O.....	Warden...	125 00
Edward Ballam...	Western Division, from River Bour- geoise to West Boundary of County	Arichat.....	Overseer...	30 00
P. W. Grouchy.....	Decousse River.....	Decousse River, Arichat	Warden...	125 00
Jno. Procter, sen..	Inhabitants River.....	Port Hawkesbury.....	do...	30 00
Abraham Sampson	Petit Degrat Inlet.....	Petit Degrat.....	Warden...	20 00
Justinian Sampson	L'Ardoise.....	L'Ardoise.....	do...	30 00
Chas. Grant.....	River Inhabitants.....	River Inhabitants.....	do...	30 00
Alex. Smith.....	West Bay, Black River.....	West Bay.....	do...	20 00
Edward Madden...	Rear of River Bourgeoise.....	River Bourgeoise.....	do...	30 00
Geo. Donahoe.....	River Moulin.....	River Moulin, Gran- digue Ferry, W.O.....	do...	30 00
Patrick Kyte.....	River Tier.....	River Tier, St. Peters..	do...	25 00
Felix Gerroir.....	Grand Ruisseau.....	Grand Ruisseau Arichat	do...	25 00
William Kehoe.....	False Bay and Breen's Brook.....	River Bourgeoise, W.O	do...	25 00
	<i>Shelburne County.</i>			
Henry Ryer.....	Shelburne County.....	Shelburne.....	Overseer...	125 00
William McKay.....	Clyde River.....	do.....	Warden...	20 00
M. Greenwood.....	Round Bay River and Indian Brook..	Clyde River, W.O.....	do...	20 00
George Archer.....	Birchtown River.....	Shelburne.....	do...	15 00
Richard McGill.....	Roseway River.....	do.....	do...	20 00
James Turner.....	Jordan River.....	do.....	do...	30 00
L. Freeman.....	Sable River.....	Sable River, W.O.....	do...	30 00
Henry Ackerman..	Green Harbor.....	Ragged Island, Locke's Island, W.O.....	do...	20 00
P. Crowell.....	Barrington River.....	Barrington.....	do...	20 00
	<i>Victoria County.</i>			
J. W. Burke.....	Victoria County, North Division.....	Ingonish.....	Overseer...	120 00
Donald McEae, jun.	do South Division.....	Baddeck.....	do...	120 00
John McLellan.....	Middle River.....	Middle River, W. O., Baddeck.....	Warden...	25 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			10,570 00

PROVINCE OF NONA SCOTIA.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 10,570 00
	<i>Victoria County.—Continued.</i>			
John McDonald.....	Middle River, Upper Settlement.....	Baddeck	Warden ...	25 00
Donald McQuarrie..	do	do	do ...	25 00
Donald McMillan...	Baddeck River.....	Middle River, W. O., Baddeck.....	do ...	25 00
Donald McAulay...	do	Baddeck.....	do ...	25 00
Hector McKenzie...	North River.....	North River, W.O.....	do ...	25 00
Donald McRae.....	Baddeck River and tributaries.....	Baddeck.....	do ...	25 00
Francis Arnold.....	Baddeck River, North Branch.....	do	do ...	25 00
Angus McDonald...	Washabuck River.....	do	do ...	30 00
Kenneth Campbell...	Indian Brook.....	Middle River.....	do ...	30 00
Roderick Beaton...	Hume's River.....	McNaughton's, W.O....	do ...	30 00
William Foyle.....	Peter's Brook.....	Baddeck River.....	do ...	30 00
John McCharles....	Upper Settlement.....	Middle River.....	do ...	30 00
Donald Bochaman...	Barachois River.....	Barachois River.....	do ...	30 00
Malcolm McIver....	Indian Brook.....	Indian Brook.....	do ...	30 00
	<i>Yarmouth County.</i>			
Enos Gardner.....	Yarmouth County.....	Tusket.....	Overseer...	100 00
J. A. Hatfield.....	From Reynard's Falls to Lower Nar- rows, Tusket River.....	do	Warden ...	50 00
William Kavanagh...	Gurill's Bridge to Coldstream	do	do ...	25 00
William Prosser....	Branches of River above Reynard's Falls	do	do ...	25 00
Eustace Nickerson	Salmon River.....	Yarmouth	do ...	25 00
Edward Perry.....	Little River.....	do	do ...	25 00
Jerome Doucet.....	Tusket River.....	Tusket	do ...	30 00
Vital Muise.....	Tusket Forks.....	Tusket Forks.....	do ...	25 00
Joseph M. White...	Eel Lake.....	Eel Lake	do ...	25 00
	<i>Total... ..</i>			11,285 00

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

W. H. Venning.....	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N.B.....	Inspector of Fish'ries Clerk.....	1,400 00 400 00
C. R. Venning.....	.....	do		
	<i>Albert County.</i>			
Winthrop Akerly..	County of Albert	Harvey.....	Overseer...	100 00
Wallace Taylor....	Peticodiac River.....	Coverdale.....	Warden ...	40 00
C. McLatchey.....	Mouth of Peticodiac River and Dor- chester Bay.....	Hillsboro'.....	do ...	40 00
Jacob Beck	Pollet River.....	Elgin.....	do ...	30 00
J. E. Kinne.....	Germantown Lake and Shepody River	Hopewell Corner.....	do ...	40 00
B. Oliver	Rocher Bay.....	Waterside	do ...	40 00
	<i>Carleton County.</i>			
Hugh Miller	Miramichi River (S.W.), from Head Waters to Forks	Glassville.....	Overseer...	30 00
Hugh Harrison....	St. John River and tributaries from Long's Creek to Tobique River	Woodstock.....	do ...	100 00
George Burt.....	St. John River.....	Upper Woodstock.....	Warden ...	30 00
J. W. Scott.....	St. John River, from Eel River to Woodstock.....	Canterbury.....	do ...	30 00
William Thompson	The Upper Waters of the South West Miramichi in the Parish of Aberdeen	East Glassville, Smith's W. O.....	do ...	30 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			2,310 00

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward</i>			\$ cts. 2,310 00
	<i>Charlotte County.</i>			
B. L. Cunningham	Inner Bay of Passamaquoddy	Chamcook, W. O.	Overseer...	40 00
James Brown.....	Campo Bello and West Isles, with Coast and Streams in Charlotte Co.	Campo Bello.....	do ...	100 00
Patk. Curran.	St. Croix River and tributaries	Milltown, St. Stephen.	do ...	120 00
W. B. McLaughlin	Grand Manan Island and spawning grounds	Grand Manan.....	do ...	†240 00
Saml. Dick.....	St. George to Beaver Harbour.....	La Tête, W. O.	Warden ...	30 00
Robert Dixon	Seeley's Cove to Lepreaux.....	Lepreaux.....	do ...	30 00
Leonard Best	East District from La Tête to Lepreaux	Beaver Harbour, W. O.	Overseer...	100 00
J. M. Lord.....	Deer Island.....	Deer Island.....	do ...	50 00
Jas. Russell.....	From St. Andrews to mouth of St. Croix River	St. Andrews.....	Warden ...	30 00
	<i>Gloucester County.</i>			
Jas. Hickson.....	River Nipissiguit and tributaries, with sea-coast and streams from Belle- dune River to Grindstone Point.....	Bathurst.....	Overseer...	250 00
Wm. Batemen	Nipissiguit River.....	do	Warden ...	50 00
Juste Hache	Oyster Beds in County Caraquet and Shippegan.....	Caraquet	Overseer...	100 00
Justinian Savoy...	Tracadie.....	Tracadie, W. O.	Warden ...	30 00
Jno. L. Veno.....	Pokemouche.....	Pokemouche.....	do ...	30 00
Fredk. Comeau.....	From Belledune to Mill Brook	Elm Tree, Madisco.....	do ...	40 00
Miles Dempsey.....	Salmon Beach from Bass River to Grindstone Point.....	Salmon Beach.....	do ...	30 00
Tim. Coughlan.....	Grindstone Point to Grand Anse	Grand Anse	do ...	30 00
Hy. A. Sormany...	Shippegan.....	Shippegan.....	do ...	30 00
W. Rogers.....	Teteagauche River.....	Teteagauche, Bathurst	do ...	25 00
John Calnan, jun..	That part of River Teteagauche from a mile above the Mill Dam to the source of said River.....	Kinsale.....	do ...	25 00
Alexis Landry, jun.	Pokemouche River.....	Pokemouche.....	Overseer...	50 00
	<i>Kent County.</i>			
Charles Cormier...	Cocagne River.....	Cocagne.....	Overseer...	100 00
J. McD. Sutherland	Richibucto River.....	Richibucto.....	do ...	75 00
F. B. Légaré.....	Little Buctouche River.....	Little Buctouche River	Warden ...	30 00
M. A. Girourd	Big do do	Buctouche.....	do ...	30 00
James Harnett.....	From the mouth of Nicholas River on the Richibucto upwards, including Nicholas River.....	Weldford River.....	do ...	30 00
Lazare Guimon.....	From Kouchibouguacis to Chockfish River.....	Kouchibouguacis.....	do ...	75 00
Nicholas Muzzeroll	From Kouchibouguacis River to Point Sapin.....	do	do ...	50 00
	<i>Kings County.</i>			
.....	Kings County.....	Sussex, Apohaqui.....	Overseer...	100 00
Samuel Goslin.....	From Mouth of Smith's Creek up- wards.....	Smith's Creek, W. O...	do ...	100 00
Samuel F. Ryan ...	Mill Stream.....	Studholm, Apohaqui...	Warden ...	30 00
N. H. Deveber.....	St. John River and Belle Isle Bay and streams running thereto.....	Westfield	Overseer...	50 00
Samuel Gamblin...	Washademoak Lake and its tributaries in Kings and Queens Counties.	English Settlement, Pearson's W. O.....	Warden ...	30 00
	<i>Carried forward</i>			4,440 00

† Includes boat hire.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.—Continued.

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 4,440 00
	<i>Northumberland County.</i>			
Prudent Robichaux	Burnt Church River and tributaries, and Upper Tabusintac.....	Upper Neguac.....	Overseer...	100 00
John Stymast.....	Lower Tabusintac River.....	Stymast Road, Neguac.	Warden...	50 00
William Blake.....	Tabusintac River, tributaries and Bay	Tabusintac.....	Overseer...	50 00
Amos Perley.....	Miramichi River and Bay, east of Beaubair's Island, in the Parishes of Glenelg and Chatham.....	Chatham.....	do ...	100 00
William Cushman.	Miramichi River and tributaries from Beaubair's Island to Blackville.....	Upper Nelson.....	do ...	160 00
N. B. T. Underhill.	From Lower line of Blackville to Blissfield.....	Blackville	do ...	160 00
Jno. Hogan.....	Miramichi River (N. W.) and tributar- ies from Chatham Ferry upwards.....	Newcastle	do ...	400 00
Aaron Hovey.....	Miramichi River (S. W.) and tribu- taries from Nelson's to Head of Hovey Island.....	Boiestown	Warden ...	30 00
George Bryanton..	From Elm Tree Brook to Squire Under- hill's, on the S. W. Miramichi River.	Derby, W. O.....	do ...	30 00
Kenneth Cameron.	Miramichi River (S. W.) from line of Blissfield to the head waters and tributaries.....	Boiestown.....	Overseer...	100 00
Patrick Bergin.....	From Underhill's to Stephen Mit- chells, on S. W.	Dumphey, W. O. Parish Blackville, S. W. Miramichi	Warden ...	30 00
Thomas Smith	From lower end of Fingley's Island on N. W. Miramichi, upwards, and the Big Sevgole.....	North Esk, Red Bank, W. O.....	do ...	30 00
D. Somers	From lower side of Ox Bow, on the Little South West, upwards.....	do do ...	Overseer...	30 00
Patrick Gillis.....	Little S. W. River and tributaries	do do ...	Warden ...	30 00
Denis Hogan.....	Renous River and tributaries	Renous Bridge, W. O.	Warden ...	30 00
Thomas McKenzie.	From Dunbar's Point on N. W. Mira- michi to lower end of Fingley's Island; on Little South West to lower side of Ox Bow.....	Red Bank, North Esk..	do ...	30 00
Henry Oldfield.....	Big Sevgole to Square Forks.....	do do ...	do ...	30 00
Robert Brimmer.....	Napan & Black Rivers and tributaries..	Napan, W. O.....	do ...	30 00
John Williston.....	Bay du Vin River and Bay, with Parish of Hardwick, Fox and other Islands, and Stations on South side of Main Channel of Miramichi River	Bay du Vin, W. O.....	Overseer...	100 00
James Russell	Miramichi River and Feeders	Lower Newcastle.	do ...	150 00
Thomas Taylor.....	South West Miramichi, within Parish of Blissfield.....	Blissfield.....	Warden ...	50 00
William Wyse.....	Herring fisheries, Miramichi Bay, and Bass fishing in Napan Bay and Black Rivers	Chatham.....	Overseer...	200 00
Michael Donovan..	Renous River.....	Renous Bridge.....	Special Guard...	18 00
Samuel Freeze.....	From Doaktown to Hovey Islands, in the Parish of Blissfield, on the South West Miramichi River.....	Doaktown, Miramichi..	Overseer...	100 00
John Holmes.....	From lower side Ox Bow on Little South West Miramichi, upwards.....	Ox Bow, Miramichi....	do ...	50 00
Nat. Morehouse....	Arbo Settlement, Parish of Black- ville, South West Miramichi.....	Arbo Settlement.....	Warden ...	30 00
J. T. Cochrane	Cochrane Settlement, Parish of Black- ville, South West Miramichi.....	Cochrane Settlement...	do ...	30 00
Joseph Chaplain...	Whitney Settlement, North West Miramichi	Whitney Settlement, Red Bank, W. O.....	do ...	30 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			6,618 00

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.—Continued.

Name:	District	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 6,618 00
	<i>Queen's County.</i>			
Isaiah Langan.....	Salmon River.....	Chipman, W.O., Gas- pereaux.....	Warden ...	30 00
John Secord.....	Canaan River.....	Long's Creek, Johnston	do ...	30 00
I. T. Hetherington	From Cole's Island to foot of Washa- demoak Lake.....	Jenkins, W.O. Johnston	do ...	30 00
W. H. Clark.....	Narrows, Washademoak Lake.....	Cambridge	do ...	25 00
John J. Camp.....	Jemseg River and Grand Lake.....	do	do ...	30 00
Robert McMann.....	Newcastle River and Grand Lake.....	Canning.....	do ...	25 00
	<i>Restigouche County.</i>			
E. Ferguson	Little Dune River to Morris Rock.....	Dalhousie.....	Overseer...	100 00
William McMillan.	From Little Belle Dune to Eel River, New Mills	New Mills, Black Point.	do ...	100 00
A. McPherson, jun.	Charlo River	Charlo, W.O.....	Warden ...	25 00
J. McMillan.....	Jacquet River.....	River Louison, W.O.....	do ...	25 00
Dugald Carmichael	do from mouth to Kettle Hole.	do	do ...	25 00
	<i>Sunbury County.</i>			
Reuben Hoben.....	St. John River, Indiantown, to County Line of York.....	Burton, W.O.....	Overseer...	100 00
	<i>St. John County.</i>			
Jos. O'Brien.....	St. John County.....	St. John.....	do ...	150 00
Wm. Skillen.....	Eastern part of St. John County, from Quaco Head to Goose River.....	St. Martins	do ...	100 00
	<i>Victoria County.</i>			
O. McClusky.....	County of Victoria.....	Grand Falls.....	Overseer...	100 00
Chas. Roberts.....	Lower Division, Tobique River	Andover.....	Warden ...	30 00
Jno. McDougall....	Three Brooks, branch of Tobique River.....	Rocky Brook, Parish of Lorne.....	do ...	30 00
G. Bedell.....	Salmon River.....	Andover.....	do ...	30 00
Donald Fraser.....	Tobique River.....	Arthurette, W.O.....	do ...	30 00
Thos. Edgar.....	Middle Division, Tobique River.....	Three Rivers.....	do ...	30 00
Edward Maloney...	Upper Division, Tobique River.....	Tobique River, Parish of Lorne	do ...	30 00
	<i>Westmoreland County.</i>			
W. B. Deacon.....	Shediac Harbor and River	Shediac.....	Overseer...	100 00
.....	Petitcodiac and Memramcook Rivers..	.....	do ...	60 00
D. T. Cormier.....	Dorchester Bay	Gautreau Village	do ...	60 00
Hugh Davidson....	Bay Verte, Port Elgin and Tidnish Rivers.....	Bay Verte	do ...	50 00
	<i>York County.</i>			
J. Campbell	Grand Pass on St. John River up- wards from Crock's Point to Lower line of York County, including Nashwaak River	Kingsclear, W.O., Fred- erickton.....	Warden ...	60 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			8,023 00

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUSWICK.—Continued

Name.	District.	Address.	Overseer or Warden.	Salary.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>			\$ cts. 8,023 00
	<i>York County.—Continued.</i>			
Wm. Brown	St. John River, from Upper line of York County to Crock's Point on River St. John	Southampton.	do ...	60 00
A. Moir.	From Price's Bend to Burnt Hill, S. W. Miramichi.....	Bloomfield.....	do ...	30 00
	<i>Total.....</i>			8,113 00

PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Isaac Thompson ...	County of Queen's.....	Charlottetown.....	Overseer ..	150 00
Ewen Clark	Dunk River.....		Warden ...	30 00
Michael Ready	Winter River.		do ...	30 00
James Clow	do		do ...	30 00
Lionel Garnam.....	do		do ...	30 00
Noah Godfrey.....			Water	
			Bailiff..	19 47
D. McCarthy.....			do ...	19 47
N. McKenzie.....			do ...	19 47
John Tobin			do ...	19 47
James Mitchell.....			do ...	19 47
Michael Dunn.....			do ...	19 47
Samuel Howat.....			do ...	19 47
H. Sanderson.....			do ...	19 47
Stephen Myers.....			do ...	19 47
Mathias Hughes...			do ...	19 47
T. Hammill.....			do ...	19 47
J. George.....			do ...	19 47
Peter Ahern.....			do ...	16 22
Angus Doyle			do ...	16 22
Patrick McCulloch			do ...	19 47
Peter Duffy.....			do ...	19 47
J. McAuley			do ...	19 47
J. Murphy.....			do ...	16 22
Arch. McAuley.....			do ...	19 47
D. Currie.....			do ...	15 00
M. McFie			do ...	16 22
	<i>Total.....</i>			661 40

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

Hon. Donald Gunn	Manitoba.....	Little Britain, Manitoba	Overseer ..	200 00
------------------	---------------	--------------------------	-------------	--------

A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

(Certified.)

W. F. WHITCHER,
Commissioner of Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,
OTTAWA, 31st December, 1875.

APPENDIX No. 2.

STATEMENT OF Expenditure on account of Fisheries, for the Fiscal Year ended 30th June, 1875.

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
	ONTARIO.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
John W. Kerr.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, ending 30th June, 1875.....	500 00	
E. Boismier.....	do do.....	200 00	
Peter Kiel.....	do do.....	200 00	
Charles Gilchrist.....	do do.....	200 00	
D. McMaster.....	do do.....	200 00	
J. A. Backhouse.....	do do.....	150 00	
F. McRae.....	do do.....	150 00	
John Mooney.....	do do.....	100 00	
A. C. McKinnon.....	do do.....	100 00	
Joseph Wilson.....	do do.....	100 00	
Henry Griffiths.....	do do.....	100 00	
J. L. Thompson.....	do do.....	50 00	
Hugh Thompson.....	do do.....	50 00	
David Hamilton.....	do do.....	50 00	
A. J. Harrington.....	do do.....	50 00	
John McAllister.....	do do.....	50 00	
John McMichael.....	do do.....	50 00	
Zeneas Quick.....	do do.....	50 00	
Alex. McKenzie.....	do do.....	50 00	
J. Wallace.....	do do.....	40 00	
James McFadden.....	do do.....	30 00	
Henry Hunt.....	do do.....	20 00	
W. E. Foote.....	9 do do.....	75 00	
Hugh Ralston.....	7 do do.....	116 66	
Charles Wilkins.....	6 do do.....	100 00	
John G. Hicks.....	do do.....	50 00	
William Plews.....	do do.....	50 00	
Peter McCann.....	do do.....	50 00	
George S. Miller.....	do do.....	50 00	
G. B. Abrey.....	do do.....	50 00	
Henry Lawe.....	do do.....	50 00	
John McGregor.....	do do.....	37 50	
Peter Huff.....	do do.....	25 00	
W. A. Palen.....	do do.....	25 00	
J. G. Wilcox.....	do do.....	25 00	
John Lyon.....	3 months' and 9 days' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	13 73	
George Cochrane.....	3 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	50 00	
James Sutherland.....	do do.....	25 00	
Charles Wilkins.....	Salary to 30th June, 1874.....	100 00	
Henry Calcutt.....	Balance of salary as late Fishery Overseer, to 31st March, 1875.....	75 00	
Richard Wilson.....	do do.....	250 00	
J. S. Webster.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Constable, Ottawa River and vicinity.....	255 50	
	Carried forward.....	3,963 39	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>	3,963 39	.....
	ONTARIO.— <i>Continued.</i>		
John Connor.....	For 12 months' disbursements as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	150 00	
William Fahey.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Guardian, Constant Lake and Creek.....	29 00	
J. Buck.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Guardian, Gananoque Narrows.....	17 00	
Arch. Boyd.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Guardian, Rideau Canal.....	12 50	
Henry Pilson.....	do do.....	12 00	
A. Root.....	Disbursements as Local Fishery Guardian, Grenadier Island.....	41 00	
A. Foster.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Guardian, Rideau Canal.....	6 00	
S. Parliament.....	Salary as Special Fishery Guardian, Belleville.....	50 00	
John W. Kerr.....	For 12 months' disbursements as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	785 93	
A. C. McKinnon.....	do do.....	351 40	
J. S. Webster.....	do do.....	249 40	
John Connor.....	do do.....	232 39	
F. McRae.....	do do.....	190 19	
Charles Gilchrist.....	do do.....	178 50	
Charles Wilkins.....	do do.....	172 00	
J. Wallace.....	do do.....	154 17	
Joseph Wilson.....	do do.....	150 00	
J. A. Backhouse.....	do do.....	79 50	
Henry Griffiths.....	do do.....	70 35	
James McFadden.....	do do.....	69 00	
Hugh Ralston.....	do do.....	57 00	
Peter Kiel.....	do do.....	46 86	
David Hamilton.....	do do.....	40 11	
Hugh Thompson.....	do do.....	35 75	
Peter McCann.....	do do.....	32 75	
E. Boismier.....	do do.....	30 03	
Richard Wilson.....	do do.....	29 41	
G. B. Abrey.....	do do.....	28 00	
J. S. Thompson.....	do do.....	24 15	
John G. Hicks.....	do do.....	21 00	
W. E. Foote.....	do do.....	20 04	
John McGregor.....	do do.....	16 00	
Peter Huff.....	do do.....	16 00	
Henry Calcutt.....	do do.....	14 00	
William Plews.....	do do.....	12 00	
A. J. Harrington.....	do do.....	5 00	
W. F. Whitche.....	Disbursements as Commissioner of Fisheries.....	356 88	
J. W. Kerr.....	To pay Local Fishery Guardians.....	200 00	
do.....	For plans of Burlington Beach.....	50 00	
Cyrille Barbeau.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Constable.....	129 10	
Charles Gilchrist.....	Boat, oars, &c.....	85 00	
William Besserer.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Guardian, Ottawa River and vicinity.....	51 75	
B. T. Davidson.....	Special services at Lake Openicon and neighbouring Lakes.....	22 00	
T. W. Walsh.....	Survey Fishery Stations at Turkey Point.....	36 00	
Cameron & Cleary.....	Professional services in connection with illegal fishing, Detroit River.....	20 00	
S. J. Webster.....	Gratuity.....	41 06	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>		8,383 61

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
QUEBEC.			
John Mowat.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	300 00	
H. W. Austin.....	do do.....	200 00	
R. W. H. Dimock.....	do do.....	175 00	
F. Saillant.....	do do.....	150 00	
Gaspard Mathurin.....	do do.....	150 00	
P. Gendreau.....	do do.....	150 00	
F. Thivierge.....	do do.....	150 00	
W. C. Willis.....	do do.....	150 00	
A. Blais.....	do do.....	100 00	
J. J. Létourneau.....	do do.....	100 00	
L. P. Huot.....	do do.....	100 00	
G. L. Duguay.....	do do.....	100 00	
D. B. McGie.....	do do.....	100 00	
Jean Legouvé.....	do do.....	100 00	
Daniel Rosa.....	do do.....	50 00	
J. E. Demeule.....	do do.....	50 00	
Job Bilodeau.....	do do.....	50 00	
Joseph Boily.....	do do.....	50 00	
Gilbert Boulet.....	do do.....	50 00	
W. H. Whitely.....	do do.....	50 00	
J. J. Fox.....	do do.....	50 00	
P. E. Luke.....	do do.....	50 00	
William Clyde.....	do do.....	50 00	
Andrew Watt.....	do do.....	50 00	
George Gagnon.....	do do.....	30 00	
C. Caron.....	6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	100 00	
H. Martin.....	do do.....	100 00	
L. E. Grondin.....	do do.....	100 00	
P. Vibert, jun.....	do do.....	100 00	
J. B. Chevalier.....	do do.....	50 00	
L. J. Loranger.....	do do.....	50 00	
J. M. Remon.....	do do.....	25 00	
E. Allard.....	do do.....	25 00	
W. Phelan.....	do do.....	25 00	
J. Phelan.....	6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	25 00	
Alex. Beaton.....	do do.....	7 50	
A. A. Mooney.....	Balance of salary to 30th June, 1875.....	125 00	
W. H. Austin.....	do do as late Fishery Overseer.....	100 00	
J. S. Webster.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Constable.....	45 00	
D. B. McGie.....	To pay Local Fishery Guardians, Mingan Division.....	320 00	
Napoleon Lavoie.....	do do Anticosti Island.....	100 00	
H. W. Austin.....	do do Richelieu Division.....	75 00	
Ed. Lacroix.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Constable, Tadoussac.....	125 00	
John Davis.....	Pay as Guardian, St. John River, Gaspé.....	102 00	
Jos. Radford.....	To pay wages of P. Plourde, Guardian, Tadoussac.....	88 00	
G. Riverin.....	Disbursements as Local Fishery Guardian, Saguenay.....	52 23	
P. Mullin.....	Pay as Special Fishery Guardian, North Wakefield Lakes.....	66 00	
S. F. Copp.....	To pay special services connected with prosecutions for violation of fishery laws at Lake Memphremagog.....	50 00	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>	4,410 73	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>	4,410 73	
	<i>QUEBEC.—Continued.</i>		
F. Saillant.....	For 12 months' disbursements as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875	732 12	
P. Vibert.....	do do	630 87	
John Mowat.....	do do	589 50	
D. B. McGie.....	do do	271 00	
F. Thivierge.....	do do	204 30	
J. J. Létourneau.....	do do	180 00	
C. Caron.....	do do	177 70	
G. L. Duguay.....	do do	148 84	
J. B. Chevalier.....	do do	126 76	
W. C. Willis.....	do do	125 85	
P. Gendreau.....	do do	125 20	
Gaspard Mathurin.....	do do	124 20	
Gilbert Boulet.....	do do	118 25	
R. W. H. Dimock.....	do do	100 00	
H. W. Austin.....	do do	100 00	
L. E. Grondin.....	do do	73 90	
L. P. Huot.....	do do	67 44	
Job Bilodeau.....	do do	55 85	
J. M. Remon.....	do do	52 20	
Daniel Rosa.....	do do	47 16	
P. E. Luke.....	do do	42 70	
E. Allard.....	do do	30 50	
Jean Legouvé.....	do do	43 00	
Joseph Boily.....	do do	25 00	
J. J. Fox.....	do do	24 50	
Andrew Watt.....	do do	8 00	
J. E. Demeule.....	do do	6 20	
A. A. Mooney.....	Balance of Disbursements as late Fishery Overseer..	41 50	
W. Phelan.....	Disbursements for year, to 30th June, 1874.....	18 50	
W. F. Whitcher.....	do as Commissioner of Fisheries.....	224 85	
J. Armstrong.....	do as Special Fishery Guardian.....	190 00	
P. Mullin.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Guardian, Gatineau Lakes.....	30 00	
A. Fairbairn.....	do do	10 00	
J. S. Webster.....	Disbursements as Fishery Constable.....	20 00	
D. J. Walsh.....	do do	10 21	
Cyrille Barbeau.....	do guarding Salmon River.....	119 70	
Chalout & LeBel.....	Professional services <i>in re</i> , suit Queen <i>vs.</i> King Bros.....	143 50	
S. P. Bauset.....	Disbursements visiting fishery stations, Gaspé and Restigouche	125 00	
H. W. Austin.....	Disbursements on special services at St. Francis River.....	58 81	
E. Gendreau.....	Boat for use of Fishery Overseer, Watsheeshoo	80 00	
E. Dumas.....	Allowance for injury to Eel Fishery, St. Jean, Port Joli	50 00	
Napoleon Lavoie.....	Procuring fishery statistics, South Shore, Gaspé...	20 00	
Albani Guay.....	Remission of fine and costs.....	12 50	
F. O. Belanger.....	Boat for Overseer at Moisie.....	12 00	
	<i>NOVA SCOTIA.</i>		9,808 34
	<i>County of Annapolis.</i>		
W. T. Carty.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	120 00	
Miner Clark.....	do do	25 00	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>	145 00	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward</i>	145 00	.....
<i>County of Annapolis.—Continued.</i>			
J. Durland.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	25 00	
Charles Barteau.....	do do.....	25 00	
A. D. Munro.....	do do.....	25 00	
J. H. Pineo.....	do do.....	25 00	
Thomas Devers.....	do do.....	25 00	
			270 00
<i>County of Antigonish.</i>			
A. W. McDonald.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	125 00	
Lachlin Cameron.....	do do.....	30 00	
John R. Aymer.....	do do.....	25 00	
Albert Randall.....	do do.....	15 00	
Colin Chisholm.....	do do.....	25 00	
Angus McDonald.....	do do.....	25 00	
John Cummings.....	do do.....	20 00	
John Dexter.....	do do.....	30 00	
Donald Chisholm.....	do do.....	25 00	
James McLean.....	do do.....	25 00	
Hugh Cameron.....	do do.....	25 00	
Duncan Frazer.....	do do.....	20 00	
			390 00
<i>County of Cape Breton.</i>			
Francis Quinan.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	120 00	
Anthony Spencer.....	do do.....	25 00	
Thomas Burke.....	do do.....	25 00	
John McEachern.....	do do.....	25 00	
Thomas Moore.....	do do.....	20 00	
Donald McDonald.....	do do.....	20 00	
Alex. McLean.....	do do.....	20 00	
York Barrington.....	do do.....	120 00	
Alex. McDonald.....	do do.....	120 00	
Allan McAdam.....	do do.....	25 00	
Angus Morrison.....	do do.....	25 00	
Denis Murphy.....	do do.....	25 00	
Donald McDonald.....	do do.....	25 00	
Michael McLellan.....	do do.....	25 00	
			620 00
<i>County of Colchester.</i>			
William Blair.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
G. N. Christie.....	do do.....	25 00	
Samuel Frame.....	do do.....	25 00	
R. J. Pollock.....	do do.....	37 50	
George Fulton.....	do do.....	25 00	
James Bouyman.....	do do.....	40 00	
J. W. Davidson.....	do do.....	100 00	
J. Urquhart.....	do do.....	50 00	
W. McElheney.....	do do.....	25 00	
H. Urquhart.....	do do.....	25 00	
George Moore.....	do do.....	25 00	
M. G. Murray.....	do do.....	25 00	
Henry M. Fulton.....	3 do do.....	6 25	
William Winton.....	do do.....	6 25	
George Ambrose.....	do do.....	6 25	
			521 25
	<i>Carried forward</i>		1,801 25

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—Continued.

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>		1,801 25
	<i>County of Cumberland.</i>		
Thomas H. Patton	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
Oliver Fillmore.....	do do	25 00	
David Stewart.....	do do	25 00	
Jeremiah Brownell	do do	25 00	
Asa Fillmore.....	do do	25 00	
James King.....	do do	100 00	
David Corbett.....	do do	25 00	
Moses Harrison.....	do do	25 00	
J. H. Barnes	do do	25 00	
Francis L. Jenks.....	do do	25 00	
W. C. Rindress.....	do do	30 00	
Elijah Fowler.....	do do	30 00	
			460 00
	<i>County of Digby.</i>		
James H. Morehouse.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	120 00	
William Odell	do do	25 00	
J. M. Devault.....	do do	25 00	
Lachlin McKay.....	do do	25 00	
Robert Journey.....	do do	25 00	
John P. Thibodeau.....	do do	25 00	
H. B. Payson.....	do do	50 00	
Israel L. Burrill.....	do do	75 00	
			370 00
	<i>County of Guysborough.</i>		
James A. Tory.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	150 00	
James Cook	do do	25 00	
William P. Carritt	do do	20 00	
Charles Kenney.....	do do	15 00	
Donald Gunn.....	do do	30 00	
William Pride	do do	30 00	
Thomas McKeen.....	do do	30 00	
Edward Jordan.....	do do	30 00	
Robert McKay.....	do do	15 00	
J. R. Bruce	do do	10 00	
James Nickerson.....	do do	15 00	
Allan McQuarrie.....	do do	40 00	
J. McDaniel.....	do do	100 00	
Adam Kirk.....	do do	30 00	
			540 00
	<i>County of Halifax.</i>		
William Anderson	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	125 00	
James Blakely.....	do do	40 00	
William Hall.....	do do	40 00	
John Fitzgerald.....	do do	125 00	
Archibald Kidston.....	do do	40 00	
N. Mason	do do	40 00	
Jos. Hamilton.....	do do	40 00	
Donald McLean.....	do do	40 00	
Donald McDonald.....	do do	40 00	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>	530 00	3,171 25

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
<i>Brought forward.....</i>		\$ cts. 530 00	\$ cts. 3,171 25
<i>County of Halifax.—Continued.</i>			
Henry Balcam.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	40 00	
John McCurdy.....	do do.....	40 00	
Pat. Hughes.....	do do.....	40 00	
Neil McLean.....	do do.....	40 00	
James Pye.....	6 months' salary, to 31st December, 1874.....	20 00	
Henry P. Mosher.....	do to 30th June, 1875.....	20 00	
			730 00
<i>County of Hants.</i>			
P. S. Burnham.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
John W. Dinsmore.....	do do.....	30 00	
James Mosher.....	do do.....	30 00	
T. B. O'Brien.....	do do.....	100 00	
Joseph Mosher.....	do do.....	50 00	
James M. O'Brien.....	do do.....	30 00	
			340 00
<i>County of Inverness.</i>			
M. A. Ross.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
Peter Coady.....	do do.....	25 00	
Bernard Dwyer.....	do do.....	25 00	
Angus McIntyre.....	do do.....	25 00	
Donald McDonald.....	do do.....	25 00	
Angus Cameron.....	do do.....	25 00	
Allan McLellan.....	do do.....	25 00	
Hugh Cameron.....	do do.....	25 00	
James McGarry.....	do do.....	25 00	
John Carmichael.....	6 months' salary, to 31st December, 1874.....	12 50	
Archibald McDougall.....	do do.....	12 50	
Reuben Philips.....	do do.....	12 50	
John McRae.....	do do.....	12 50	
William Grant.....	do do.....	50 00	
Hugh Gillis.....	2 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	16 66	
Neil McKay.....	do do.....	4 16	
John Cameron.....	do do.....	16 66	
Kenneth McKenzie.....	do do.....	4 16	
Malcolm McLeod.....	do do.....	4 16	
Mark Crowdis.....	do do.....	4 16	
George Ingraham.....	do do.....	4 16	
John Carroll.....	do do.....	4 16	
			458 28
<i>County of Kiugs.</i>			
Adolphus Bishop.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	125 00	
William McIntyre.....	do do.....	30 00	
Irad Benjamin.....	do do.....	20 00	
J. Buchanan.....	do do.....	20 00	
J. E. Starr.....	9 do do.....	187 50	
Eljah C. Borden.....	3 do do.....	62 50	
			445 00
<i>Carried forward.....</i>			5,144 53

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.		Amount.	Total.
			\$ cts.	\$ cts.
		<i>Brought forward.....</i>		5,144 53
		<i>County of Lunenburg.</i>		
George Redden.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....		100 00	
James Corkum.....	do do		25 00	
William Mosher.....	do do		25 00	
James Hutt.....	do do		25 00	
James Languille.....	do do		25 00	
Henry S. Jost.....	do do		100 00	
Charles Pernette.....	do do		25 00	
John Artz.....	do do		25 00	
James Mossman.....	do do		25 00	
Edward Morgan.....	do do		25 00	
John Andrews.....	do do		25 00	
Geo. E. Nesbitt.....	do do		25 00	
Edward Boylan.....	do do		25 00	
Ebenezer Frail.....	6 do to 31st December, 1874.....		12 50	
Geo. Moland.....	6 do to 30th June, 1875.....		12 50	
Eli Hebb.....	6 do do		12 50	
William Craft.....	3 do do		6 25	
				518 75
		<i>County of Pictou.</i>		
John McDeDonald.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30 June, 1875.....		170 00	
J. McKay.....	do do		25 00	
Donald Rankin.....	do do		25 00	
William Stewart.....	do do		25 00	
Daniel McLean.....	do do		30 00	
Thomas Graham.....	do do		140 00	
John Turner.....	do do		25 00	
William Smith.....	do do		25 00	
William Evans.....	do do		25 00	
A. McKenzie.....	do do		25 00	
George McKenzie.....	do do		25 00	
John McDonald.....	do do		25 00	
Peter Delaney.....	do do		25 00	
William Frazer.....	do do		25 00	
Donald Frazer.....	do do		25 00	
Alexander Douglas.....	6 do to 31st Dec., 1874.....		12 50	
John Cameron.....	6 do do		12 50	
Robert Archibald.....	6 do to 30th June, 1875.....		12 50	
David Languille.....	6 do do		12 50	
William Evans.....	6 do do		12 50	
A. Douglas.....	Balance of salary.....		6 25	
				708 75
		<i>County of Queens.</i>		
S. T. N. Sellon.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....		135 00	
S. Clements.....	do do		25 00	
T. Ford.....	do do		50 00	
Wm. Buchanan.....	do do		20 00	
Henry Hocker.....	do do		30 00	
John Fitzgerald.....	do do		30 00	
B. Miles.....	do do		20 00	
James Farquhar.....	do do		30 00	
Stephen Smith.....	do do		20 00	
Jonathan Smith.....	do do		15 00	
J. N. Mack.....	6 do to 31st Dec., 1874.....		15 00	
S. Lonas.....	6 do to 30th June, 1875.....		15 00	
				405 00
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>			6,777 03

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>		6,777 03
	<i>County of Richmond.</i>		
Duncan Cameron.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	125 00	
Alex. Urquhart.....	do do.....	30 00	
P. W. Grouchy.....	do do.....	30 00	
John Proctor.....	do do.....	20 00	
Abraham Sampson.....	do do.....	30 00	
Justinian Sampson.....	do do.....	30 00	
Charles Grant.....	do do.....	20 00	
Alex. Smith.....	do do.....	30 00	
Edward Madden.....	do do.....	30 00	
George Donahoe.....	do do.....	30 00	
Patrick Kyte.....	do do.....	25 00	
Felix Gerroir.....	do do.....	25 00	
Edward Ballam.....	9 do do.....	93 75	
Hector McKinnon.....	6 do to 31st Dec., 1874.....	15 00	
William Kehoe.....	3 do to 30th June, 1875.....	6 25	
J. H. Ballam.....	Salary for July and August, 1874.....	20 84	560 84
	<i>County of Shelburne.</i>		
Henry Ryer.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	125 00	
William McKay.....	do do.....	20 00	
M. Greenwood.....	do do.....	20 00	
George Archer.....	do do.....	15 00	
Richard McGill.....	do do.....	20 00	
James Turner.....	do do.....	30 00	
L. Freeman.....	do do.....	30 00	
Henry Ackerman.....	do do.....	20 00	
P. Crowell.....	do do.....	20 00	300 00
	<i>County of Victoria.</i>		
J. W. Burke.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	120 00	
Donald McRae, jun.....	do do.....	120 00	
John McLellan.....	do do.....	25 00	
J. McDonald.....	do do.....	25 00	
Donald McQuarrie.....	do do.....	25 00	
Donald McMillan.....	do do.....	25 00	
Donald McAuley.....	do do.....	25 00	
Hector McKenzie.....	do do.....	25 00	
Donald McRae.....	do do.....	25 00	
Francis Arnold.....	do do.....	30 00	
Angus McDonald.....	do do.....	30 00	
Kenneth Campbell.....	do do.....	30 00	
Roderick Beaton.....	do do.....	30 00	
William Foyle.....	do do.....	30 00	
John McCharles.....	1 do do.....	2 50	
Donald Bochaman.....	1 do do.....	2 50	
Malcolm McIver.....			595 00
	<i>County of Yarmouth.</i>		
Enos Gardner.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
J. A. Hatfield.....	do do.....	50 00	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>	150 00	8,232 87

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>	\$ cts. 150 00	\$ cts. 8,232 87
<i>County of Yarmouth.—Continued.</i>			
William Kavanagh.....	For 12 months' salary, to 30th June, 1875.....	25 00	
William Prosser.....	do do	25 00	
Eustace Nickerson.....	do do	25 00	
Edward Perry.....	do do	25 00	
Jérôme Doucette.....	do do	30 00	
Vital Muisse.....	3 do do	6 25	
Jos. M. White.....	3 do do	6 25	
			292 50
Thomas H. Patton.....	12 months' disbursements, to 31st Dec., '74.....	12 00	
James King.....	do do	37 00	
W. T. Carty.....	do do	109 95	
J. H. Morehouse.....	do do	41 50	
S. T. N. Sellon.....	do do	129 32	
W. H. Ryer.....	do do	98 60	
William Anderson.....	do do	21 75	
John Fitzgerald.....	do do	58 87	
J. W. Burke.....	do do	30 00	
Donald McRae.....	do do	50 40	
John McDonald.....	do do	35 00	
Thomas Graham.....	do do	29 20	
York Barrington.....	do do	36 00	
Francis Quinan.....	do do	59 75	
Alex. McDonald.....	do do	50 00	
Adolphus Bishop.....	do do	40 60	
William Blair.....	do do	23 80	
James Bonyman.....	do do	10 00	
J. W. Davidson.....	do do	25 50	
Enos Gardner.....	do do	89 50	
J. A. Tory.....	do do	43 40	
George Redden.....	do do	51 00	
Henry S. Jost.....	do do	40 75	
M. A. Ross.....	do do	53 00	
William Grant.....	do do	39 00	
Duncan Cameron.....	do do	30 00	
P. S. Burnham.....	do do	27 50	
T. B. O'Brien.....	do do	32 00	
Edward Ballam.....	do do	14 40	
A. N. McDonald.....	do do	29 85	
John McDaniel.....	do do	30 80	
Israel L. Burrill.....	do do	22 00	
E. Sibley.....	do do	15 90	
J. E. Starr.....	do do	44 00	
W. H. Rogers.....	12 months' salary as Fishery Officer, to 30th June, 1875.....	784 00	
P. S. Hamilton.....	4 months' salary as Inspector of Fisheries, to 30th June, 1875.....	457 32	
W. H. Rogers.....	12 months' travelling disbursements.....	500 00	
P. S. Hamilton.....	do do	400 00	
George Redden.....	Removing obstructions, Martin's River, County Lunenburg.....	100 00	
C. Chisholm.....	Compensation for injuries received while performing duties as Fishery Warden.....	6 50	
J. E. Hosterman.....	Storage of ammunition.....	5 00	
Receiver-General.....	Superannuation tax on W. H. Rogers' salary.....	16 00	
do	do P. S. Hamilton's salary.....	9 33	
			3,740 49
			12,265 86

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
NEW BRUNSWICK.			
<i>County of Albert.</i>			
Winthrop Akerley.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
Wallace Taylor.....	do do	40 00	
C. McLatchey.....	do do	40 00	
Jacob Beck.....	do do	30 00	
J. E. Kinne.....	do do	40 00	
Bartlet Oliver.....	do do	40 00	290 00
<i>County of Carleton.</i>			
Hugh Miller.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	30 00	
Hugh Harrison.....	do do	100 00	
George Burt.....	do do	30 00	
J. W. Scott.....	do do	30 00	
William Thompson.....	9 do do	22 50	212 50
<i>County of Charlotte.</i>			
B. L. Cunningham.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	40 00	
James Brown.....	do do	100 00	
Patrick Curran.....	do do	120 00	
W. B. McLaughlin.....	do do	240 00	
Samuel Dick.....	do do	30 50	
Robert Dixon.....	do do	30 00	
Leonard Best.....	do do	100 00	
J. M. Lord.....	do do	50 00	
James Russell.....	do do	30 00	740 00
<i>County of Gloucester.</i>			
James Hickson.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	250 00	
William Bateman.....	do do	50 00	
Juste Hache.....	do do	100 00	
Justinian Savoy.....	do do	30 00	
J. L. Veno.....	do do	30 00	
Miles Dempsey.....	do do	30 00	
Timothy Coughlan.....	do do	30 00	
H. A. Sormany.....	do do	30 00	
W. Rogers.....	do do	25 00	
F. Comeau.....	6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st Dec., 1875.....	15 00	
James Sewell.....	do do	30 00	
John Calnan, jun.....	3 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st Dec., 1874.....	6 25	
Alexis Landry, jun.....	3 do do	12 50	638 75
<i>County of Kent.</i>			
Charles Cormier.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
<i>Carried forward.....</i>		100 00	1,881 25

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward</i>	100 00	1,881 25
	<i>County of Kent.—Continued.</i>		
J. McD. Sutherland.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	75 00	
F. B. Légaré.....	do do	30 00	
M. A. Girouard.....	do do	30 00	
James Harnett.....	do do	30 00	
Lazare Guimon.....	do do	75 00	
Nicholas Muzzeroll.....	do do	37 50	
			377 50
	<i>County of Kings.</i>		
Isaac Foshay.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
Samuel Gosline.....	do do	50 00	
S. F. Ryan.....	do do	30 00	
N. H. Deveber.....	do do	50 00	
Samuel Gamblain.....	do do	30 00	
			260 00
	<i>County of Northumberland.</i>		
Prudent Robichaux.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	100 00	
Norman Campbell.....	do do	50 00	
Amos Perley.....	do do	100 00	
N. B. T. Underhill.....	do do	160 00	
John Hogan.....	do do	400 00	
Aaron Hovey.....	do do	30 00	
George Bryanton.....	do do	30 00	
Kenneth Cameron.....	do do	100 00	
Patrick Bergin.....	do do	30 00	
Thomas Smith.....	do do	30 00	
David Somers.....	do do	30 00	
Patrick Gillis.....	do do	30 00	
Denis Hogan.....	do do	30 00	
Thomas McKenzie.....	do do	30 00	
Henry Oldfield.....	do do	30 00	
Robert Brimmer.....	do do	30 00	
John Williston.....	do do	100 00	
James Russell.....	do do	150 00	
Thomas Taylor.....	do do	50 00	
John Stymast.....	do do	50 00	
William Wyse.....	For 6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	100 00	
Thomas Savoy.....	do do	15 00	
Michael Donovan.....	do do	9 00	
William Cushman.....	For 9 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875.....	123 97	
			1,807 97
	<i>County of Queens.</i>		
I. Langan.....	For 9 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	15 00	
John Secord.....	do do	15 00	
I. T. Hetherington.....	do do	15 00	
W. H. Clarke.....	do do	12 50	
			57 50
	<i>Carried forward</i>		4,384 22

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward</i>		4,384 22
	<i>County of Restigouche.</i>		
E. Ferguson.....	For 12 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 30th June, 1875	100 00	
Wm. McMillan.....	6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	50 00	
A. McPherson, jun	do do	12 50	
J. McMillan	do do	12 50	175 00
	<i>County of Sunbury.</i>		
Reuben Hoben.....	For 6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	50 00	50 00
	<i>County of St. John.</i>		
William Skillen.....	For 6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	50 00	
Jos. O'Brien	do do	37 50	87 50
	<i>County of Victoria.</i>		
Charles McCluskey	For 6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	50 00	
Charles Roberts	do do	15 00	
John McDougall.....	do do	15 00	
G. Bedell.....	do do	15 00	
Donald Frazer.....	do do	15 00	
Thomas Edgar.....	do do	15 00	
Edward Maloney.....	do do	15 00	140 00
	<i>County of Westmoreland.</i>		
W. B. Deacon	For 6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	30 00	
D. T. Cormier	do do	30 00	
Hugh Davidson.....	do do	25 00	85 00
	<i>County of York.</i>		
James Campbell.....	For 6 months' salary as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	15 00	
William Brown	do do	15 00	
Alex. Moir.....	do do	15 00	45 00
Ebenezer Ferguson	For 12 months' disbursements as Fishery Overseer, to 31st December, 1874.....	33 00	
William McMillan.....	do do	11 90	
James Hickson	do do	149 50	
William Bateman	do do	25 00	
P. Robichaux	do do	26 00	
Justinien Savoy	do do	15 30	
Juste Haché	do do	23 00	
	<i>Carried forward</i>	284 20	4,986 72

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc — *Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward</i>	284 20	4,966 72
Amos Perley	For 12 months' disbursements as Fishery Overseer, to December 31st, 1874.	42 00	
William Cushman	do do	40 50	
Thomas Taylor	do do	29 25	
N. B. T. Underhill	do do	12 85	
John Hogan	do do	128 35	
Kenneth Cameron	do do	22 50	
David Somers	do do	2 75	
James Russell	do do	15 50	
John Williston	do do	44 00	
William Wyse	do do	71 00	
D. T. Cormier	do do	43 00	
Charles Cormier	do do	30 00	
J. McD. Sutherland	do do	50 50	
W. B. Deacon	do do	39 50	
W. Akerley	do do	14 15	
Hugh Davidson	do do	20 00	
Wallace Taylor	do do	10 00	
B. L. Cunningham	do do	53 00	
James Brown	do do	16 00	
W. B. McLaughlin	do do	38 50	
Pat. Curran	do do	41 30	
Leonard Best	do do	15 00	
Isaac Foshay	do do	19 00	
Samuel Gosline	do do	40 00	
N. H. DeVeber	do do	30 00	
R. Hoben	do do	29 20	
Hugh Miller	do do	8 00	
Hugh Harrison	do do	28 32	
W. E. Skillen	do do	12 00	
Jos. Sewell	do do	13 00	
Charles McCluskey	do do	42 20	
Jos. O'Brien	do do	19 00	
William Brown	do do	24 00	
J. A. Campbell	do do	12 00	
W. H. Venning	12 months' salary as Inspector of Fisheries, to 30th June, 1875.....	1,372 00	
Receiver-General	Superannuation tax on W. H. Venning's salary	28 00	
C. R. Venning	12 months' salary as Clerk to Inspector of Fisheries, to 30th June, 1875	394 92	
Receiver-General	Superannuation tax on C. R. Venning's salary	5 08	
W. H. Venning	12 months' disbursements as Inspector of Fish- eries, to 30th June, 1875	641 48	
R. P. & W. F. Starr	Coal for Inspector of Fisheries' office.....	38 49	
James Copp	Services as Special Guardian.....	175 00	
John Howe	For postage stamps	80 00	
J. Chubb & Co.	Stationery	69 40	
Jos. Miller	Paid for postages.....	25 58	
Ellis & Armstrong	Advertising.....	40 25	
N. T. Stephens	do	45 25	
William Wyse	Balance of salary.....	200 00	
M. J. C. Andrews	6 months' salary and disbursements	145 00	
W. H. Tuck	Professional services	291 58	
A. J. Hickman	do	75 00	
Christopher Parker	Salary from 1st July to 30th Sept., 1874, as Fishery Overseer	36 66	
	<i>Carried forward</i>	5,004 26	4,966 72

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—Continued.

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward</i>	5,004 26	4,966 72
Jos. Knowles.....	For Gas bill.....	17 95	
W. B. Deacon.....	Law costs.....	52 15	
Bowes & Evans.....	Repairing stove-blower.....	0 80	
T. Deblois.....	Subscription to News-room.....	5 00	
			5,080 16
	PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.		
James Clow.....	For 12 months' salary as Water Bailiff, to 30th June, 1875.....	19 47	10,046 88
Michael Ready.....	do do.....	19 47	
Noah Godfrey.....	do do.....	19 47	
D. McCarthy.....	do do.....	19 47	
N. McKenzie.....	do do.....	19 47	
John Tobin.....	do do.....	19 47	
James Mitchell.....	do do.....	19 47	
Michael Dunn.....	do do.....	19 47	
Sam. Howat.....	do do.....	19 47	
Lionel Garmin.....	do do.....	19 47	
H. Sanderson.....	do do.....	19 47	
Stephen Myers.....	do do.....	19 47	
Mathias Hughes.....	do do.....	19 47	
Ewen Clark.....	do do.....	19 47	
T. Hammill.....	do do.....	19 47	
J. George.....	do do.....	19 47	
Peter Ahearn.....	do do.....	16 22	
Angus Doyle.....	do do.....	16 22	
Patrick McCulloch.....	do do.....	19 47	
Peter Duffy.....	do do.....	19 47	
J. McAuley.....	do do.....	19 47	
J. Murphy.....	do do.....	16 22	
Arch. McAuley.....	For 6 months' salary, to 31st December, 1874.....	9 73	
D. Currie.....		15 00	
M. McFee.....	For 12 months' salary protecting Nail pond.....	16 22	
			459 54
	MANITOBA.		
Donald Gunn.....	For Salary as Fishery Overseer, from 22nd October, 1873, to 31st March, 1875.....		288 65
	FISH-BREEDING, FISHWAYS AND OYSTER-BEDS.		
S. Wilmot.....	For 12 months' salary as Officer in charge of Newcastle Establishment.....	1,176 00	
Receiver-General.....	Superannuation tax on S. Wilmot's salary.....	42 00	
Simmons & Jardine.....	Fish trays for Newcastle Establishment.....	144 52	
James Neevin.....	Salary as Caretaker do.....	350 00	
Montreal Telegraph Co.....	Telegrams do.....	34 07	
James Wright.....	Tinware do.....	21 63	
F. Nicholson.....	Coal do.....	57 95	
James Boie.....	Labour do.....	10 00	
J. G. Barefeldt.....	Hardware do.....	30 39	
Wm. Skate.....	Lumber do.....	8 70	
N. Bright.....	Picking ova do.....	10 25	
Page & Kidder.....	Paraffine varnish do.....	17 50	
Spencer & Gunnell.....	Labour do.....	65 75	
John Caweth.....	do do.....	36 00	
H. Hodges.....	Postages do.....	10 50	
	<i>Carried forward</i>	2,015 26	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.</i>	2,015 26	
	FISH-BREEDING, ETC.—<i>Continued.</i>		
Express Co.....	For Express charges on California ova for New castle Establishment.	26 85	
R. Neesham	Picking ova do	10 00	
G. M. Clark.....	Raceway do	30 00	
Massey Manufacturing Co	Coal stoves do	129 63	
S. Wilmot	Travelling expenses do	181 56	
do	General disbursements do	63 70	
J. W. James	Meat-cutter do	6 00	
Dominion Telegraph Co..	Telegrams do	16 03	
J. H. Rolph	Painting trays do	14 63	
J. McLeod	Twine do	11 93	
S. Wilmot	Arrears of rent do	1,140 75	
James Wright.....	Fish pails do	105 17	
A. E. Walbridge	Postage stamps do	17 10	
James Neevin.....	Labour do	88 80	
F. Nicholson.....	Coal do	25 00	
W. R. Clinne.....	Posters do	15 00	
W. Parker.....	Disbursements collecting ova do	13 90	
W. McMahon.....	Labour do	25 00	
Wm. Shelton.....	do do	36 60	
Spencer & Gunnell.....	do do	158 24	
L. Strowger.....	Trap nets do	291 98	
James Neevin.....	Travelling disbursements do	90 30	
G. A. Jacobs	Cedar posts do	56 25	
Dominion Telegraph Co..	Telegrams do	24 94	
Montreal do	do do	32 40	
J. R. Barefeldt.....	Hardware do	24 57	
James Bowen.....	Carpenter's work do	14 75	
S. Wilmot.....	To pay local Guardians do	280 00	
do	defray expenses attending Fish Culturists' Association, New York.....	100 00	
P. Coleman	For lumber for reception house at Bowmanville.....	16 60	
H. Soper	Building do do	130 00	
W. Parker.....	Expenses to Miramichi Establishment.....	51 00	
S. Wilmot	To pay Jas. Neevin's expenses to Tadousac Establishment.....	116 15	
do	Pay Jos. Radford's expenses do	200 00	
W. Parker.....	For expenses at Miramichi.....	75 65	
A. B. Wilmot.....	Travelling disbursements in connection with Establishment at Gaspé Basin.....	146 10	
John Eden.....	Making nets do	52 25	
John Béchervaise.....	Lime do	9 00	
G. Patterson.....	Labour do	16 50	
Jos. Eden.....	do do	43 79	
William Eden.....	do do	34 45	
James Coffin.....	do do	15 00	
A. Coffin	do do	189 23	
Henry Davis.....	do do	89 30	
Felix Annett.....	do do	20 62	
D. W. McLeod.....	Lumber do	78 73	
Jos. Eden & Son.....	Hardware, paint, &c do	87 87	
Colas & Slous.....	Stores do	67 56	
Wm. Patterson.....	Labour do	44 62	
Harvey Cass.....	do do	50 25	
Lowndes Bros.....	Lumber do	123 84	
John Cass	Labour do	60 75	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>	6,765 60	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>	6,765 60	
	<i>FISH-BREEDING, ETC.—Continued.</i>		
Wm. Russell.....	For Plastering, in connection with Establishment at Gaspé Basin.....	52 20	
Wm. Mosher.....	Labour do	204 00	
David Rabbi.....	do do	46 50	
J. H. Phinney.....	Tinware do	39 97	
Wm. Baker.....	Labour do	60 00	
Wm. St. Croix.....	do do	16 00	
James St. Croix.....	Catching salmon do	112 00	
J. Patterson.....	Labour do	63 75	
Montreal Telegraph Co..	Telegrams do	23 88	
Thomas McCallum.....	Catching salmon do	39 00	
Daniel Patterson.....	do do	39 50	
Henry Davis.....	Sale of land do	60 00	
P. Vibert.....	6 months' salary as Officer in charge Establishment at Gaspé Basin.....	125 00	
do	Travelling disbursements do	44 88	
Wm. Baker.....	Lumber do	70 00	
Montreal Telegraph Co..	Telegrams do	16 94	
Henry Davis.....	Labour do	120 25	
James Coffin.....	do do	12 00	
Lowndes Bros.....	Lumber do	11 71	
Colas & Slous.....	Stores do	32 69	
Jos. Eden & Son.....	do do	20 57	
Montreal Telegraph Co..	Telegrams do	7 54	
H. Davis.....	Labour do	70 55	
Lowndes Bros.....	Forge work do	3 20	
John Davis.....	Making pump do	4 75	
Jno. Alexander.....	Labour on dam do	5 85	
Felix Coffin.....	do do	3 90	
J. Leboutillier & Co.....	Zinc, cordage, &c. do	41 53	
Henry Davis.....	Labour do	65 00	
John Davis.....	Carpenter's work do	50 00	
R. Coffin.....	Labour do	31 40	
Benj. Coffin.....	Making salmon nets do	10 20	
J. & E. Colas.....	Paint do	1 85	
Montreal Telegraph Co..	Telegrams do	6 81	
J. U. Gregory.....	Freight on lumber do	11 40	
Archer & Co.....	Lumber do	200 80	
T. Peters.....	do do	114 00	
John Giblin.....	Coal do	69 75	
Dinning & Webster.....	Rope do	9 00	
Page, Kidder & Co.....	Varnish do	26 25	
L. Gagné.....	Breeding troughs do	68 25	
J. U. Gregory.....	Express charges do	4 40	
L. Gagné.....	Windows do	22 85	
A. P. Frechette.....	Hardware do	12 94	
D. Rosa.....	Wages as Special Fishery Guardian at Lake Memphremagog.....	270 15	
P. Stephens.....	do do	137 95	
W. W. Page.....	Board of Special Fishery Guardians at Lake Memphremagog.....	29 30	
J. U. Gregory.....	Special Guardians at Tadousac Establishment..	146 50	
J. U. Gregory.....	Freight do	44 75	
Joseph Radford.....	To pay labourers and disbursements, Tadousac Establishment.....	496 48	
do	pay for finishing interior Tadousac Establishment.....	479 87	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>	10,423 66.	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.</i>	10,423 66	
	<i>FISH-BREEDING, ETC.—Continued.</i>		
Price Bros.....	For lumber, in connection with Tadousac Establishment	427 82	
do	Lumber for Reception House do	241 80	
Joseph Radford.....	Shingles do	34 00	
L. Dube.....	Carpenter's work do	6 75	
J. Tremblay	Blacksmith's work do	5 03	
W. Hovington.....	Attendance do	101 00	
J. Girard.....	Lumber do	82 44	
F. Saillant.....	Disbursements do	364 42	
do	Procuring ova do	105 38	
M. Tremblay.....	Indemnity for ground do	100 00	
J. Mowat.....	Labour at Restigouche Establishment.....	388 73	
do	Horse-hire, &c. do	10 00	
do	Stove and pipes do	14 60	
E. C. Ennis.....	Lumber do	36 00	
M. Patterson.....	Stove do	18 00	
Thomas Copeland.....	Wages as Assistant do	100 00	
A. Mowat.....	do do	137 50	
John Mowat	Expenses distributing ova do	105 00	
John Campbell	Guardian, Kedgwick River.....	125 00	
D. Brown.....	do Escuminac River	50 00	
A. Kerr.....	do Nouvelle River.....	50 00	
Jacques Girard	Building fishway, River à Mars.....	286 94	
W. F. Whitcher.....	Disbursements as Commissioner of Fisheries, in connection with fish-breeding	230 03	
J. A. Camirand.....	Professional services in connection with suit for violation of Fishery Laws at Lake Memphremagog	81 40	
A. St. Amour.....	Guardian, Lower Gatineau Lakes.....	30 00	
J. Connor.....	Disbursements as Special Fishery Constable during the breeding season	41 72	
J. Hughes.....	do do	50 00	
D. J. Walsh.....	do do	46 00	
John Purcell.....	do do	13 75	
C. Barbeau.....	do do	44 23	
W. F. Whitcher.....	To pay local Fishery Guardians.....	400 00	
A. B. Wilmot.....	For 12 months' salary as Officer in charge of Miramichi Establishment.....	800 00	
do	Travelling disbursements do	265 25	
Isaac Chasegreen.....	Attending do	434 42	
D. McLeod.....	Balance of claim for extras do	307 38	
E. Tozer.....	Labour do	209 75	
R. R. Call.....	Freight and coal do	154 17	
G. F. Powley.....	Water pipes do	140 04	
James Fish.....	Salmon twine, &c do	139 45	
Alexander Stewart.....	Horse-hire, &c. do	99 55	
Thomas Mullin.....	Taking salmon do	93 60	
George Goddard.....	Labour do	24 00	
Edward Sinclair.....	Manure to cover feeding pipes do	28 07	
William Mason.....	Hardware do	63 52	
D. & J. Ritchie.....	Lumber do	70 33	
James Brown.....	Paint do	14 89	
A. Watt.....	Copying press and stationery for Miramichi Establishment	21 07	
B. Tye.....	Iron bands for water pipes do	27 00	
James Murray.....	Iron scraper do	6 00	
Thomas Maltby.....	Planing lumber do	12 39	
	<i>Carried forward.</i>	17,062 08	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>	17,062 08	
<i>FISH-BREEDING, ETC.—Continued.</i>			
John Maltby	For Superintending construction of Miramichi Establishment.....	100 00	
H. A. Fish.....	Office furniture do	21 00	
W. & G. Watt.....	Hardware do	13 02	
E. Tozer.....	Building fence do	111 00	
John Fish.....	Hardware do	29 60	
R. A. Smith.....	Telegrams do	5 13	
Hugh Currie.....	Labour do	14 00	
H. Tozer.....	do do	10 00	
P. Hogan.....	do do	36 00	
John Hogan.....	do do	40 00	
M. A. Smith.....	Telegrams do	26 58	
Call & Miller.....	Freight do	26 80	
Thomas McKenzie.....	Taking salmon do	88 20	
J. M. Troy.....	Lumber do	11 75	
Alexander Atchinson.....	Labour do	7 00	
John Chasegreen.....	do do	66 80	
A. R. Ramsey.....	Nails do	10 55	
John Maltby.....	Labour do	10 00	
D. & J. Ritchie.....	Lumber do	43 04	
J. H. Phinney.....	Sprinkler and hardware do	66 83	
Hugh Currie.....	Labour do	40 20	
A. B. Wilmot.....	Balance of disbursements, June account, Miramichi Establishment.....	5 35	
Abbott, Tait & Co.....	Professional services suit re Shediac River fishway	10 00	
W. H. Venning.....	Expenses visiting Miramichi Establishment.....	50 00	
H. W. Johnston.....	To pay for removal of obstructions, River Tier, N.S.	100 00	18,004 93
<i>"LA CANADIENNE."</i>			
Napoleon Lavoie... ..	For 12 months' salary as Commander.....	1,200 00	
do	12 months' disbursements for provisions, wood, pilotage, &c.....	531 10	
Capt. C. Morin.....	11 months' and 16 days' salary as Sailing Master	478 31	
do	Allowance for board whilst vessel was fitting out	35 50	
do	Expenses of steamer on her trip to Halifax.....	100 00	
do	Board of crew	14 00	
J. U. Gregory.....	To pay wages of crew.....	2,040 28	
J. M. Tardivel	For painting	12 55	
L. Guerard.....	Repairing furniture, etc.....	13 00	
W. Watson.....	Sails	436 78	
S. Peters.....	Lumber	2 17	
Joseph Archer.....	do	23 44	
L. Marois.....	Vegetables	130 08	
George T. Davie.....	Repairs and wintering	602 80	
J. Boivin.....	Hardware	37 72	
P. Sanselme.....	Bread	19 50	
G. Bouchard.....	Provisions.....	539 11	
Chinic & Beaudet.....	Powder.....	48 00	
J. Marmen.....	Cartage and firewood.....	56 06	
F. O. Vallerand.....	Lamps, chinneys and wicks.....	70 40	
L. Arel.....	Provisions, meat, etc	329 48	
Connolly & Co.....	Provisions.....	65 10	
	<i>Carried forward.....</i>	6,785 38	

STATEMENT of Expenditure on account of Fisheries, etc.—*Continued.*

To whom paid.	Service.	Amount.	Total.
	<i>Brought forward.....</i>	\$ cts. 6,785 38	\$ cts.
	<i>"LA CANADIENNE."—Continued.</i>		
Dussault & Co	For Towage.....	8 00	
Louis Bourget	Provisions	846 60	
W. E. Brunet.....	Drugs and medicines.....	21 00	
F. M. Dechene.....	Flannel, linen, sheets, bedding, etc.....	110 63	
do	Uniforms for 18 men and one steward.....	236 00	
S. Bedard.....	Hose, hardware, crockery, tinware and repairs.....	205 44	
F. Danglade.....	Uniform for 1st Mate.....	15 00	
F. Vezina.....	Painting	27 97	
H. S. Scott.....	Iron.....	5 83	
E. Boucher.....	Allowance for uniform.....	12 00	
Ph. Rouillard.....	Washing and repairing linen.....	35 25	
J. Carroll.....	Advertising.....	9 60	
O. L. Richardson.....	Leather	8 40	
Ed. Giroux.....	Medicines	1 20	
J. J. Foot.....	Advertising	12 00	
A. McCallum	Repairing compasses.....	9 25	
H. Fabre.....	Advertising.....	6 72	
D. Davidson.....	Telescope	14 40	
Audet & Robitaille.....	Cordage, canvas, brushes, paint, etc.....	347 18	
Middleton & Dawson.....	Stationery.....	19 08	
Quebec Gulf Port SS. Co.....	Freight to Gaspé.....	12 25	
G. T. Cary.....	Advertising tenders for "La Canadienne".....	12 00	
N. Tranquille.....	Repairing blocks	21 34	
Paul Poirier.....	Mooring and watching vessel	10 00	
Allan Gilmour & Co.....	Wintering at Indian Cove.....	40 00	
Napoleon Lavoie.....	30 days' board in Quebec, travelling and other expenses.....	168 75	
Capt. C. Morin.....	Carriage of self and twelve men from Indian Cove to Quebec.....	9 95	
Napoleon Lavoie.....	Allowance for uniform.....	30 00	
M. Bion & Co.....	Provisions	10 00	
L. A. Blanchet.....	Paid for cartage, ferriages, &c.....	15 78	
	STEAMER "GLENDON."		9,067 00
D. W. Clark.....	For 19 tons coal at \$7.....	133 00	
T. Poliquin.....	Travelling expenses to St. John to join steamer.....	50 00	
J. H. Harding.....	On account of outfit.....	750 00	
			933 00
			10,000 00

RECAPITULATION.

Fisheries—Ontario.....	\$8,383 61
do Quebec	9,808 34
do Nova Scotia.....	12,265 83
do New Brunswick.....	10,046 88
do Prince Edward Island	459 54
do Manitoba	288 65
Fish-breeding, fishways and oyster beds.....	18,004 93
"La Canadienne" and "Glendon".....	10,000 00
	69,257 81

The expenditure, as shown above, is \$2,587.63 in excess of that shown by the Finance Department, the Auditor having charged the Salary and Travelling Expenses of the Inspector of Fisheries for New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, to Civil Government.

JOHN TILTON,
Accountant.

WM. SMITH,
Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

APPENDIX No. 3.

REPORT OF THE CRUISE OF THE GOVERNMENT STEAMER "GLENDON,"
EMPLOYED IN THE PROTECTION OF THE FISHERIES OF THE
GULF AND RIVER ST. LAWRENCE, DURING THE SEASON OF 1875.
UNDER COMMAND OF NAPOLEON LAVOIE, ESQ., FISHERY OFFICER.

To the Honorable A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

L'ISLET, 31st December, 1875.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the following report of the cruise of the Government steamer *Glendon*, charged with the protection of the Fisheries in the Gulf and Lower St. Lawrence, during the past season.

Before making any observations on the results of my cruise, I deem it necessary to bring under your special notice the immense advantage which has been attained by the substitution of steam for sails in the Fisheries' Protection Service. When the rapid progress made in the navy of each country possessing a maritime coast is taken into consideration, as well as the almost universal tendency to replace sails by steam, it will be seen that the continuance of the services of *La Canadienne*, which had become too old, would have placed us in a condition of inferiority, and would have rendered that vessel almost useless. American schooners have of late been so much improved in their build, that they are able to compete with the fastest sailers; and it would have been a folly to have any longer tried to protect our Fisheries with a sailing vessel necessarily subject to winds and sea. To be unable, whenever necessary, to take a vessel to the place where her presence is immediately needed on public service, and especially to have only one vessel at command, is equivalent to having none at all; and the so-called protection almost becomes a mockery. With a steamer, however, there are, so to say, scarcely any circumstances under which a movement from one place to another cannot be effected at will. Let speed be added to the facility of motion, and it is easy to understand the immense advantage in protection a steamer affords to fishermen on the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. This consideration alone would of itself be sufficient to compensate the few secondary causes of inferiority between a steamer and a sailing vessel; the main object to be kept in view being the speedy and efficient protection of our fisheries. It is true the expenditure may be somewhat heavier, but it is only fair that the State should meet an extra charge when its service is undoubtedly performed in a far more satisfactory manner. Besides, there is really no justifiable ground for such an apprehension, as the most simple calculations have already shown in comparing sails with steam. It is therefore useless to remark further on this point, and I would not even have alluded to the subject had it not been that I desired specially to draw your attention to the vessel which Government provided for the performance of my duties. Although greatly superior to a sailing vessel, this steamer is far from being adequate to the necessary requirements of the service, and is therefore deficient in many respects. First of all, she is too slow, and consequently more expensive than a faster boat

would be; and thus she cannot possess the two great requisites of a steam vessel—namely, rapidity and efficiency. The Fisheries' protection service must therefore necessarily suffer from the above defects. My intention is not, however, to dwell at any length on the wants of the *Glendon*; it will be sufficient for me to point out the most serious defects, in order to draw your attention to it and have them remedied as soon as possible. This will be to the advantage of both the Government and the fishermen, and the efficiency of the service.

Secondly: I consider this the proper time to bring under your special notice the constant increase in the number of fishermen, which necessarily calls for an adequate extension of duties and more attention and labor on my part. Fishing on the coast of Labrador in particular has increased far more than one would be led to think. Instead of from fifteen to sixteen hundred souls which this coast comprised in 1860, the population now numbers nearly five thousand; and as it is mostly composed of resident fishermen who are joined during the summer season by several hundreds of foreign fishermen, you will easily understand that the requirements of the service are nearly double what they were ten years ago. This increase will undoubtedly follow in a progressive ratio, thanks to the more favorable conditions of existence which are being gradually developed on the coast of Labrador, consisting of the opening of means of communication, the conquests of man over nature, and the increased and more reliable means by which assistance can be sent to this population, whose isolated position daily becomes less a cause of apprehension.

As the number of fishermen increases, it follows that the importance of our fisheries gradually becomes greater. At the northern extremity of the Straits of Belle-Isle, on an extent of coast of fifty miles, immense operations are carried on in cod, salmon and herring fishing; the produce of which is valued at no less than \$5,000,000. Again, the export of the products of the fisheries from the ports of Gaspé and Magdalen Islands alone, amounted last year to no less than \$450,000. With such figures as these, it is not difficult to calculate the value of this industry to the public treasury, and how worthy it is of the vigilant protection of Government. These results are nevertheless very small, compared with what they should be, were fishermen more independent, had they greater liberty of action, and above all, were they permitted to gather the fruit of their labours free from the influence of monopoly. This would allow them to improve the model of their fishing boats and fishing gear, and to eventually reap much larger profits. All this requires serious consideration on the part of a Government which has at heart the development of public wealth, as well as the protection of the first of our industries; one which nature has made inexhaustible, and from which the nations engaged therein have only to gather the products, in order to secure with certainty a reliable source of wealth.

I beg to draw your attention to the urgent necessity which will then exist of providing a safer and faster vessel than the one now in use. The field of our service being enlarged, it will become indispensable that the Government vessel shall be in all conditions such as is required for such service.

I shall now close these remarks with an observation which naturally occurs in this connection. The settlement of the Fishery Question will undoubtedly bring to our shores a greater number of foreign sailors, who will then be no longer hindered by restrictions, and whose rights will almost be equal to those of our own people. Will it not become necessary, under the circumstances, to protect with greater care and increased attention these thousands of fishermen who form the most hardy portion of our people, and who will meet a keen and difficult competition at the hands of parties who have numerous advantages over them, either through their better organization or the superiority of their vessels and fishing tackle? There is surely not in the whole Dominion an industry more entitled to our consideration than that of fishing, on account of the incalculable wealth it affords; and I do not think that too much stress can be laid upon the importance of its being properly protected and aided with all possible facilities and every advantage.

I have so far spoken of the services which our vessel was called upon to render our fishermen; but in how many other circumstances could she not be made use of;

in shipwrecks especially, which are of so common occurrence on the Gulf shores; and of what assistance has she not been to the local authorities, who, in several places, were unable to enforce municipal or other laws conducive to peace and good order. We are often called upon to assist the local magistracy, whose judgments or condemnations would, without our help, become a dead letter and a laughing stock to disorderly characters on these remote shores. I will give one example out of a thousand others. During the month of September last, at the request of the Justices of the Peace of Cap Chatte and Ste. Anne des Monts, I detailed part of my crew to capture several robbers who had become a nuisance to these parishes for over two years past, and whose exploits had become almost fabulous; the local authorities being unable to apprehend them, as they took to the woods for their hiding place. After much trouble and labour, we succeeded in laying our hands on these culprits. They were tried before the magistrates, who, taking advantage of the presence of our vessel, sent them to Percé jail, a distance of fifty miles. Without our assistance, this measure would have entailed a heavy expense which, I venture to say, the magistrates would scarcely have dared to incur.

I shall not, however, go further in this matter, but will enter at once on the body of my report, and detail the results of my cruise during last season.

CAUSES WHICH PREVENTED THE EARLY DEPARTURE OF THE STEAMER ENGAGED IN THE FISHERIES PROTECTION SERVICE.

Owing to the above stated changes, our departure from Quebec was considerably delayed. First of all, *La Canadienne* had to be sent to Halifax, with a picked crew, for the purpose of taking back the *Glendon*. She left Quebec on the 12th May and arrived in Halifax on the 27th. Our sailing master was three days getting to St. John, N. B., which place he left with the *Glendon* on the 1st June for Pictou, arriving there on the 8th. Having taken on board 300 tons of coal, the steamer sailed for Quebec, where she arrived on the 18th June. She had then to be fitted up for her cruise and provisioned, and was eventually finished and got ready for sea on the 26th July, when she finally started on her cruise.

It being too late to call at Magdalen Islands, as the spring herring fishery was over, and our presence unnecessary there, we first touched at Ste. Anne des Monts where our services were required to investigate several cases of poaching, and then shaped our course towards the North shore where salmon fishery was just at its height.

The *Glendon* was engaged a little over three months in her cruise this season, having returned to Quebec on the 7th November. During this length of time we visited the north shore and the coast of Labrador three times; stopping each time at the Island of Anticosti, and paid two visits to Magdalen Islands, Bay des Chaleurs and the south shore. The several stations within these divisions were repeatedly visited; the Fishery Overseers making reports and receiving instructions at each calling of the Government vessel.

Order and compliance with the Fishery laws were everywhere insured, thanks to our presence.

It is needless for me to repeat here the remarks made in my report of last year on the spirit of order and tranquility which prevailed everywhere on our coasts during the fishing season. No disturbance of the peace whatever occurred among so large a floating population composed of fishermen of different creeds and nationalities, and every one seems to appreciate better every year the care and attention bestowed on their wants by the Department over which you preside.

We met with no serious accident during our cruise; and in every circumstance where stormy weather required increased exertions on the part of the officers and crew under my command, I had every reason to be satisfied with their attention to duty.

With these preliminary remarks, I shall proceed to review the several Fisheries of the Gulf and Lower St. Lawrence in the order hereinbefore set forth.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE YIELD OF FISHERIES IN THE GULF AND LOWER ST. LAWRENCE.

The division under my charge comprises the shores of the Counties of Gaspé and Bonaventure from Cape Chatte to Cross Point, in the Restigouche River; the north coast from Point des Monts to Blanc Sablon; Anticosti and Magdalen Islands.

The principal kinds of fish frequenting the waters of this division are cod, herring, mackerel, salmon, trout, halibut, lobsters, together with seals and whales.

Although the yield of each of these fisheries was not equal to the expectations which might have been entertained from the attention bestowed upon this branch of industry by our fishermen, and the protection given them by the Government, still the general results have been very fair, and the prices obtained much better than in previous years.

For reasons which will be more fully stated in another part of this report, certain parts of the Gulf coast were, during the past season more frequented by fish than others. The local Fishery Overseers' reports show that cod were found much higher up than usual on the north shore, although in smaller quantities; that fishing was moderately good on the coast of Gaspé during the beginning of the season and that at Magdalen Islands the codfishing banks abounded all the time with fish.

Herring and mackerel were plentiful around the Islands during the whole season. Fall herring fishing was also good on the north coast during the latter part of the fall. The most surprising feature is, however, noticeable in the comparative failure of the salmon fishery. The same general causes which influenced the yield of other fisheries undoubtedly helped to injure salmon fishing; but I am led to believe that local causes of which I will speak more at length, when treating of the Salmon fishery in particular, were the material causes of failure, as the general cause which leads to the lesser or greater success in fishing is better established than the migration of the species of small fish upon which the larger kinds feed. Cod and salmon follow bait; and when bait are abundant, cod and salmon are usually abundant too. Cod were plentiful this season at Magdalen Islands; but it must be remarked that bait was found there at all times. A large quantity of fish were caught at Gaspé during the first part of the summer, bait being then abundant; so soon as it failed, fishing became very indifferent. Miscou and Orphan's banks were constantly frequented by cod, bait being also abundant there; but frequent stormy weather prevented fishermen from resorting to these places during the fall of the year. There was no bait at Ste. Anne des Monts and Cape Chatte, and no codfish were found in these localities. On the coasts of Labrador and Newfoundland, similar causes produced similar results. I am of opinion that another of the principal causes which influence the migration of fish towards certain shores in preference to others, is connected with the temperature of the water; and by considering the direction of such migration this year, it will be seen that the fish resorted principally to Magdalen Islands and the Coasts of Gaspe, where the water is warmer. On the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as on those of Anticosti, where the ice remained until the month of June, bait kept in deep water in consequence of its being warmer than at the surface, and appeared only in August, along with cod, when the water grew warmer. The fishing began about this time on the north shore. When cod made its appearance at Blanc Sablon, fishermen were gone elsewhere. Although there is a difference of 10,303 quintals, compared with last year, in the yield of cod fishery on the North and South shores; by adding together the catch at Magdalen Islands and Anticosti, this discrepancy is reduced to 7,619 quintals, as follows:

Codfishing in 1874.....	148,333 quintals.
do 1875.....	138,214 do

The total catch of salmon fishing was—

In 1874.....	1,313 barrels salted, and 590,853 lbs. fresh.
1875	1,392 do do 315,999 do

thus showing a decrease of 174,854 pounds fresh,—or nearly one-third.

Mackerel were abundant at Magdalen Islands; but the falling off everywhere else is so large that the quantity of fish caught is smaller than that of last year although the value is greater :—

The catch in 1874 being.....	7128 barrels,
do 1875 do	6493 do
Halibut fishing is practised on the same grounds as cod fishing.	
It yielded in 1874.....	301 barrels.
do 1875.....	201 do

The successful results obtained at Magdalen Islands compensate for the poor fishing experienced in other localities; but the greatest success obtained there was in seal-hunting, which, in spite of total failure elsewhere makes the total yield this season 11,730 seals in excess of last season. In 1874 there were killed 12,639 seals; in 1875 there were killed 24,369 seals.

Whale fishing shows an increase of 140 barrels over the yield of last year; the figures being 480 barrels in 1874, against 625 in 1875.

Lobster fishing abundantly proves that the grounds are ruined so far as that branch of industry is concerned, the yield being 254,908 lbs. in 1874, against 86,964 lbs. in 1875; and amongst that quantity must be reckoned 18,200 pounds earned at Magdalen Islands.

GASPE AND BONAVENTURE DIVISIONS.

Changes are so few and the rate of progress so slow on the extent of coast placed under my charge, that it is a very difficult thing to present my annual report under a new dress and to suggest matters which have not already been a frequent subject of allusion. There are, however, certain things which require urgent action and which demand continuous public attention. If the large divisions of Gaspé and Bonaventure, with the exceptional advantages presented by reason of their location on the rich shores of Bay des Chaleurs, have only a population of 30,000 souls, most of them neglectful of agricultural pursuits, such a slow rate of progress must be attributed to causes which I have in several instances already brought under your notice and to which I must again call your attention.

The actual settlement of the coast of Gaspé and Bay des Chaleurs hardly dates one hundred years back. Scarcely had it begun when powerful firms repaired thither from the Island of Jersey to take advantage of the labour and resources of the growing population. The ignorance and improvidence of these settlers, which repeated experience has not yet cured, unfortunately made them easy tools to the cunning and cupidity of merchants, who took advantage of their own supremacy to keep them in a state of comparative bondage. The policy adopted by the founder of one of these firms, that of Robin & Co., could possibly bring no other results than those witnessed at the present time. This far-seeing man understood at once that, in order to keep these people under his power, they should be prevented as much as possible from following agricultural pursuits, which would have ensured a certain amount of independence. He, therefore, became purchaser of the seigniories of Pabos and Grand River, and subsequently deeded this land to the people at the rate of ten acres each. These settlers being unable to live by the produce of their lands, were compelled to have recourse to the Robins, who thus became owners of half of the farms bordering on Bay des Chaleurs, purchasing at the same time at low prices the fish which they caught and supplying them with goods and provisions at exorbitant rates. In spite, however, of the endeavours made to keep settlers tied to their fishing boats, the soil is so fertile and the climate so favourable to agricultural pursuits that remarkable progress has been noticed in late years. The returns, however, of the last four or five years show that agricultural products have had a tendency to decline rather than to increase, although there has been no decrease in the population. It must not be lost sight of, that public works, lumbering operations, railways, salmon and lobster canning establishments, employed a large number of hands which thus were lost to agriculture. On the other side the want of markets for the sale of farm produce is a further impediment to the progress of agriculture; the only purchasers

being the Jersey merchants, who buy at low prices in order to supply fishermen. Even farmers themselves dare not sell on credit, as they would be sure to lose the amount of their debt, the merchants compelling fishermen to give them all their fish.

Another reason why agricultural pursuits are more neglected now than they used to be, is the bad system of engaging fishermen. Up to five or six years past, the majority of this class hired themselves only until the 15th August for what was called summer-fishing; the proceeds of which went altogether to merchants in payment of accounts. On the 15th of August, let the bills be settled or not, fishermen began working for themselves, and were thus enabled to purchase their winter provisions wherever they liked, the fish being usually sent to Quebec. Thus they eked out a living, and working at home, were enabled to cultivate a little plot of ground which yielded a small return for their industry. The Robins, however, soon found out that this system made the fishermen a little too independent, and anticipating a chance of tightening the bonds under which they were kept, gradually changed their mode of engagement to another which the improvident and too confiding fishermen adopted without paying sufficient attention to its effect. The mode of engagement now followed on the coast of Gaspé is the half-time system. Most of the fishermen are sent to the large establishments of Percé, Newport, Pabos and of the North Coast to fish there until the end of August or September, so that when the fishing is over there is hardly anything left for them to do. The weather is apt to be so stormy at this period of the year that weeks may elapse before they are enabled to fish, and there is no occupation for them on shore.

This system, which at first sight may seem advantageous, is nevertheless disastrous to the fishermen, as it prevents them from cultivating their small plots of land and compels them to procure everything from merchants, who are thus enabled to take advantage of the position in which they are placed. This system is still more prejudicial in so far as it increases the exports of Jersey firms, thereby diminishing the supply on our markets and enhancing the price of codfish. It is also, as may be easily understood, ruinous to the coasting trade.

There is no need to repeat here what I wrote last year about these firms, their mode of trading and their narrow and ambitious views. What I then said and what I write to-day will, I venture to say, be sufficient to enable you to understand the position of a large and wealthy portion of our Dominion; the situation in which is placed a whole population reduced to an undisguised state of vassalage; the want of resources and education affording them no means of resisting this oppression. It is certainly not useless on my part to try once more to urge your solicitude towards this unfortunate class of our own people, whose position is an anomaly of the age in which we live.

I shall now turn to other considerations which, however secondary, still have their importance.

A matter worthy of remark is the fact that, whilst the lumber trade was considerably depressed in every other part of the Province, it increased in Gaspé to almost unprecedented proportions. Eight vessels took cargoes of square timber and boards from Cape Chatte to Magdalen River. This is an increase of four vessels over last year. Although these figures may not appear large, compared with the quantity of lumber which the division of Gaspé can supply, still, it gives great hopes for the future, and will undoubtedly lead to a larger supply, owing to increased facilities consequent upon the opening of new roads and the increase of population.

Whilst upon this subject, I think it will not be out of place to say a word about the Gulf Port steamers, which call at the principal ports as high up as the head of Bay des Chaleurs. It is clear that were the scales of fares and freights lower, the result would be a material increase in the business of these vessels. Nothing can surpass in natural beauty the shores of the Restigouche, Bay des Chaleurs or Gaspé Bay. With the lowering of rates of passage, these localities would undoubtedly be eagerly sought after by tourists and families in search of quiet watering places as a summer resort. The beneficial effects of sea-bathing in the waters of Gaspé Bay are already so well known that it is almost needless to speak of them; but their fame

will spread still further when the place is more frequented; a result to be obtained only by a reduction in the fares on the Gulf Port steamers and the completion of the railway connecting Paspebiac with Campbellton, on the Restigouche River.

Although each fishery in itself was not successful on the Coast of Gaspé, codfishing, which is the principal support of the inhabitants, was better than last year, and the prices realized were so good that it may be considered successful, and the more so as those of the settlers who cultivated the land reaped a most abundant harvest.

I now close these general remarks, and will treat more fully of the various branches of the fisheries of this division.

Cod Fishery.

Of all the fisheries prosecuted on our shores codfishing undoubtedly yields the most important staple, and gives employment to the largest number of people. Although this industry has not yet reached the same degree of success which it has attained on the coasts of Newfoundland and the Maritime Provinces, its products are still very considerable. During the present season, 3,210 men and 1,577 boats were engaged in cod fishery along the coasts of Gaspé and Bonaventure. These figures do not comprise a still larger number of men employed on shore curing and preparing the fish for export.

Cod is so well known that it is needless to give a lengthy description of it. There are several species, but I shall speak only of the kinds found on our shores. The northern seas and the Grand Banks of Newfoundland are the places where these fish appear to resort after their summer visit to the waters of the Gulf and to certain points off the shores of Europe and America. There is nothing whatever to prevent the possibility of their wintering on the banks which exist in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and especially on those of Miscou, where they are met with late in the fall and very early in the spring; the well-known voracity of these fish and the instinct of conservation causes them to prefer those spots which are found to supply abundance of food. The cod feeds on small fish, molluses and crustaceans which abound on the above named banks, and on offal and other substances carried thither by currents.

Scientific men claim that the reproductive power of cod is so great that, in spite of every cause of destruction which this denizen of the sea meets from the first days of its existence until it has reached its full development, no human means will ever be found to destroy the species or even to decrease it in a sensible manner. Naturalists estimate some 8,000,000 as the number of eggs contained in a cod, and if to this immense fecundity is added the large extent of natural breeding grounds, replete with abundant food, along the coasts of Newfoundland and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, it will be easily understood what a mine of wealth lies at our own doors. About the end of February, cod abandon their breeding grounds, and go South, without however proceeding further than Cape Cod, in America, and Gibraltar in Europe. At the same time they near the coasts of Norway, Denmark and Scotland. They are also noticed about the same period on the shores of Greenland and Iceland; but they enter the Gulf of St. Lawrence only in May, and are afterwards abundant during the summer and fall on our shores and banks. The presence of the fish in larger or smaller quantities in certain places is undoubtedly governed by natural causes, such as suitability for reproduction, and the abundance or want of small fish, on which they feed. There are probably other causes which influence more or less the migrations of these fish, and as there is no doubt that it is not only near the shores but also upon the banks on the high seas that the cod breeds; this accounts for the assertion that no human power could destroy the species. If the presence of cod on our shores is determined by the greater or lesser abundance of small fish, it is evidently our own interest not to destroy them in an injudicious manner. This desirable equilibrium has not always been maintained in the United States, and the result has manifested itself in a disappearance of cod

from those shores. Timely means, have, however, been taken of late to protect the small fish which formerly abounded in the estuaries of rivers, and the consequence has been a partial return of cod. The immense extent of our sea shore does not admit of any apprehension of a similar falling off, but, still, cod were formerly known to ascend the St. Lawrence as high as Rimouski, whilst now they are seldom met with further up than St. Anne des Monts. May it not be probable that the same causes which caused codfish to abandon the coasts of the United States might operate in the same manner on our own shores? The indiscriminate use of small fish as manure and the injurious effects of saw-dust and mill-rubbish accumulating at the mouths of rivers, may contribute to the most disastrous results.

Cod is a delicious fish, and one in which there is no loss. It supplies human food, oil and a kind of glue which is as much prized as that of a sturgeon. Large profits are also realized from the sale of cod roes. The preparation of this article, which yields a large revenue to Newfoundland fishermen, was until lately comparatively unknown to our people; but I notice with pleasure that more attention has been paid to this branch of industry than usual. Four or five years ago the Gaspé people began the preparation of cod roes for export, but, for reasons unknown, the trade was dropped. Having plenty of time on hand this season, they again set to work, and the statistics show that on the coast of Gaspé no less than 622 barrels of cod roes were prepared, giving a revenue of over \$4,000. Newfoundlanders export this article to Norway and France, where it is used as bait for sardine fishing, and sells from \$5 to \$8 a barrel.

Codfishing on our shores is divided into two seasons; summer and fall fishing. Formerly, the only fish that were dried and went to the merchants were those caught after the 15th of August. The fish caught after that date were salted and sent to Montreal or Quebec in barrels, or were traded for the purchase of winter provisions. But now that almost everywhere in Gaspe, and especially in the western part, the system of engagements is changed, there is so to speak but one season of fishing, the summer fishery; since all the fish caught is dried for export.

Although cod is met with on the whole coast of Gaspé, there are several places where it is found in greater abundance than others, such for instance as Percé and the neighbourhood of Bonaventure Island and of Cape Gaspé. In these places also the fish remains a greater length of time than at others. Without being considered good, last season's catch on the coast of Gaspé was very fair, and better than in 1874. In that year the catch on the south shore amounted to 89,913 quintals, and in 1875, it yielded 91,558 quintals. During the first week's fishing the greatest success crowned the labours of our fishermen, barges returning with four or five drafts of fish daily. But bait having suddenly disappeared, cod did the same. Newport, Pabos, and Grand River fishermen who usually repair to the Miscou and Orphan banks, made a splendid summer fishery, their catch averaging from 125 to 150 quintals per barge. They relied on the same success towards the fall, but stormy weather unfortunately prevented them from resorting to the banks, so that the autumn fishing entirely failed on this part of the coast. Above Paspebiac as well as above Mount Louis, the inhabitants are engaged in farming as well as fishing, so that when they noticed the cod fishery decreasing in June they abandoned the barge for the plough. The fish struck this year about the middle of May.

Codfishing is practiced in two ways on the Gaspé coast: by means of hand line or by trawl-fishing. Most of the fishermen from Cape Gaspé to Newport who carry on the banks as well as the inshore fishing, use trawls; everywhere else the fish are caught with hook and line. Trawl-fishing requires more bait than hook and line fishing. Fishermen from Percé and its neighbourhood are bold and experienced sailors; they go out with open boats of from 20 to 25 feet as far as thirty-six miles in the open sea, where their chances of a good catch are much better. These are dangerous voyages, and fishermen often encounter storms which larger vessels are unable to resist.

Some fishermen, who must indeed be reckoned among the ignorant or greedy class, complain of the use of trawls under pretence that they destroy the larger kinds

of cod or mother-fish. Were the large fish the only ones on which to rely for the reproduction of the species, this objection might have some weight, but it is not so, according to the opinion of naturalists well versed in the subject. For my part I cannot see what difference there can be in taking a large codfish with a trawl or taking a smaller one with hook and line. Moreover, it having been ascertained that cod deposit their eggs in the high seas as well as off shore, it becomes a matter of great indifference whether the fish be caught with trawls at the entrance of the Gulf, or with hook and line near the coasts.

In last year's report, I spoke at great length of the relations between merchants and fishermen, and of the means possessed by the former of securing all the fish; I shall not therefore repeat my remarks, but will only add that all the cod cured and dried on the south shore is acquired by merchants, who forward it to their large establishments of Gaspé and Paspébiac, to be thence exported to foreign countries. Should the fish be of a very fine quality, it is shipped to Italy; should it be of an inferior brand, it is sent to Brazil and the West Indies.

The fish caught during the season of 1874 sold very high last winter on foreign markets, especially in Brazil. I was informed that the nett profits realized in these markets were from six, eight and even ten dollars a quintal, and I am aware that this fall Mr. Lebouillier, of Gaspé, sold a cargo of 2,400 tubs (a tub weighs one quintal and a quarter) for \$20.750, payable before vessel leaving the wharf. This gave a clear profit of from \$8 to \$9 a quintal. Codfish in tubs is of an inferior quality and sells in Gaspé cheaper than fish of first-class brands. These high prices and the enormous profits realized by Jersey merchants out of the labour of fishermen did not however stir them to a greater sense of liberality, and the powerful firm of Robin & Co., fixed as usual in the month of August, the price of cod at \$3.20. Things would have remained in the same state during the whole season, fishermen would have run deeper and deeper into debt; starvation and misery would have reached their height, especially on the north shore, had not Mr. Charles Lebouillier of Gaspé, raised the price of fish from four to four and a half and even five dollars. Whilst Mr. Lebouillier was selling salt for nine shillings, the Messrs. Robin charged thirteen and fourteen. Of course this gentleman was looked upon with disapprobation. He was even remonstrated with; and I would not at all be surprised if attempts were made to crush him.

The harbors of Gaspé and Paspébiac being the only places where vessels can find a safe anchorage during the whole season, are those where the splendid looking fleet of brigantines resort for the purpose of bringing in salt and articles required for fishermen and inhabitants on the coast. Most of the fleet take in their cargoes at these ports. This year no less than fifty-six vessels, averaging from 100 to 250 tons, took on board cargoes of dry codfish for Italy and South America. They were all of a fine model, fast sailers, and are a credit to Jersey builders.

The total quantity of cod caught this year within the division of Gaspé and Bonaventure amounts to 93,128 quintals against 88,913 quintals in 1874.

RETURN OF VESSELS engaged in the Fish Trade which took Cargoes at Percé and Gaspé, in 1875.

PORT OF PERCÉ.

VESSELS INWARDS.				VESSELS OUTWARDS.			
Names of Vessels	Tons.	Men.	Whence.	Cargo.	Value.	Names of Vessels	Tons.
Hematope	76	5	Jersey	General	\$	Dawn	154
John Clarke.....	86	6	do	do		Heroine . . .	97
Dawn	154	7	Cadiz.....	Salt.....		Inga.....	678
Bolina	92	6	Figueria.....	do		Bolina.....	92
Heroine	97	7	Jersey.....	General		John Clarke. .	86
Diton.....	78	7	do	do		Diton	78
Tickler.....	96	7	Bristol.....	do		Juventa.....	151
Inga	678	16	London.....	Ballast.....		Zigzag.....	119
Snawdrop	149	7	Cadiz.....	Salt.....			
Juventa.....	151	8	Runcorn	do			
Secret (s.s.)	293	43	Pictou	Goods in Bond...			
Warrior	94	6	Barbadoes	General			
Comalo	95	6	do	do			
Hematope	76	5	do	do			
Marie Georgiana.	98	7	Labrador.	Fish.....			
Hebe	236	11	Liverpool.	Salt, &c.....			
Miramichi (s.s.).	292	45	Pictou	Goods in Bond...			

115 Coasters entered at this Port.

PORT OF GASPÉ.

Names of Vessels	Tons.	Men.	Whence.	Cargo.	Value.	Names of Vessels	Tons.
Firm	140	8	Newfoundland ..	Ballast		Orient Star.....	95
Forward	139	6	Bristol	do		Edward Vittery..	119
Ocean Phantom.	598	15	London	do		Bolina.....	93
Hans Thus.....	400	10	Gloucester.....	do		Aura	93
Skein.....	619	14	London	do		Standard	93
Zenith	118	6	Cadiz.....	Salt.....		Dawn	154
Orpheus	611	15	Risort.....	Ballast.....		Plover	30
Mary Jane.....	122	5	Cadiz.....	Salt.....		Warrior	93
						Ancona.	2,686 qtls.....
						Lisbon	2,685 do
						Naples.....	1,037 do
						Rio Janeiro....	Fish.....
						do	do
						do	do
						Shippegan.....	Sundries
						Barbadoes	Fish.....

NEW CARLSLE.

No.	Date of Report.	Name of Vessel.	Tons.	Men.	Whence.	Codfish, Dry, in quintals.	Haddock, Dry, in quintals.	Ling, Dry, in quintals.	Codfish Oil, in gallons.	Cod Roes, in barrels.	Lobsters, Preserved, in lbs.	Salmon, Pickled, in barrels.	Mackerel, Pickled, in barrels.	Codsh. Green, in barrels.	Herring, Pickled, in barrels.	Herring, Smoked, in boxes.	Alewives, in barrels.	God Sounds, in barrels.
42	May 28.....	Anabella.....	72	5	Barbadoes.....	56									15			
46	June 10.....	Hebe.....	236	9	do.....									40				
47	" 14.....	Sadflower.....	332	15	Jersey.....										17			
50	" 14.....	Hudson.....	100	8	Barbadoes.....													
55	" 28.....	" 85.....	139	8	Rio Janeiro.....	1,834	35	55							116			
3	July 7.....	C.R.C.....	248	12	Barbadoes.....	658	55	20							200			
4	" 8.....	Robin.....	150	8	do.....										116			
4	" 8.....	G.D.T.....	118	7	do.....	596	9								200			
5	" 9.....	M. Georgiana.....	98	6	do.....													
6	" 13.....	Emile Adeline.....	88	5	Newfoundland.....													
12	Aug. 24.....	Marceline.....	45	4	Boston.....							11			622	30		
13	" 26.....	O. Blanchard.....	260	10	Rio Janeiro.....	2,026	64								751			
16	Sept. 4.....	Star of the Sea.....	65	5	Boston.....													
17	" 4.....	Hanatope.....	76	4	Barbadoes.....	1,150												
21	" 15.....	Snowdrop.....	149	7	Rio Janeiro.....	2,533												
22	" 16.....	Ranger.....	137	7	Jersey.....	3,026												
23	" 18.....	Robin.....	150	8	Rio Janeiro.....	2,356												
24	" 21.....	G.D.T.....	118	8	Jersey.....				6,891					55				
25	" 20.....	C.R.C.....	248	11	Rio Janeiro.....	3,466	516											
26	Oct. 16.....	Reaper.....	137	8	Bari Staly.....	2,983	400					13					26	
27	" 22.....	Hanely.....	229	10	Barbadoes.....	3,264												
28	" 28.....	Sea Rose.....	145	7	Rio Janeiro.....	2,602												
29	" 29.....	Union.....	193	9	do.....	2,486	605											
30	" 30.....	M. Georgiana.....	98	7	Viana.....	2,340												
32	Nov. 6.....	Zenith.....	181	6	Rio Janeiro.....	1,730												
33	" 9.....	Century.....	181	8	Jersey.....				30,878	339								
34	" 10.....	A. White.....	98	6	Barbadoes.....													
35	" 15.....	Seaflower.....	332	14	Jersey.....	6,197									20			
37	" 19.....	Hebe.....	236	10	Rio Janeiro.....	2,395	4								36			100
38	" 19.....	Anabella.....	72	6	Barbadoes.....													
39	" 30.....	Anabella.....	72	6	Barbadoes.....													
						41,708	1,688	75	37,769	339		24		206	2,093	30		100

Return of all Ships and Vessels that have entered Inwards coastways, Season of 1875.

NEW CARLISLE.

No.	Date of Report.	Name of Ship.	Tons.	Men.	Whence.	Codsh. Dry, in quintals.	Herring, Pickled, in barrel.	Cod Oil, in gallons.	Pickled Fish, in barrels.	Oysters, in barrels.	Preserved Lobsters, in boxes.	Alcwives, in barrels.	Consignees.	Remarks.
100	June 3	G.D.T.	118	7	Magpie	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	B.B. and C.R.C. to show the Consignees.	
115	" 21	Hare	23	3	Caraquet	43	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	B.B. C.R.C.	
21	July 21	Fairy	33	3	Sheppean .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	B.B.	Those marked B.B. are Le Boutillier Bros.; and those marked C.R.C. are Charles Robin & Co., both of Paspebiac.
35	Aug. 8	Snowdrop	149	6	Perceé .....	.....	.....	1,274	.....	.....	140	.....	B.B. C.R.C.	
37	" 10	Northern Chief	50	5	Cheticap	580	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
41	" 21	Northern Chief	50	5	Magarie	650	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
46	" 31	Northern Chief	50	5	do	660	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
55	Sept. 13	Northern Chief	50	5	do	680	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
58	" 16	Ranger	137	8	Caraquet	3,025	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
63	" 23	Northern Chief	50	5	Magarie	660	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
65	" 25	Fairy	33	3	Sheppean	450	.....	.....	.....	.....	87	.....	C.R.C.	
66	" 27	Paspebiac	57	5	Arichat	200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
68	" 29	Hare	23	3	Caraquet	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
70	Oct. 5	Replevin	5	2	do .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
72	" 9	Fairy	33	3	Sheppigan	425	.....	.....	.....	.....	406	.....	C.R.C.	
73	" 11	Etoile du Matin	71	5	Caraquet	1,135	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
74	" 11	Union	193	8	Arichat	460	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
76	" 13	Beaver	20	3	Caraquet	828	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
77	" 15	Etoile du Matin	71	5	do	786	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
79	" 16	Paspebiac	57	5	do	150	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
80	" 23	Epopt	10	3	do	1,300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	B.B. C.R.C.	
82	" 26	Adelina	91	6	Magpie	200	.....	800	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
83	" 27	Epopt	10	3	Caraquet	180	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
84	" 27	Replevin	5	2	do	1,020	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
85	Nov. 3	Northern Chief	50	5	Arichat	91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
86	" 5	Epopt	10	3	do .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
87	" 5	Replevin	5	2	do .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
88	" 5	Fly	58	5	do .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
89	" 8	Zenith	118	5	Mingan	1,728	.....	5,400	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.R.C.	
90	" 8	Star of the Sea	45	4	Port Auxley	660	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C.H.	Clarence Hamilton.
93	" 12	Replevin	5	2	Caraquet .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	B.B.	
							713	7,474	20	50	* 633	28	C.R.C.	
						15,264								

NEW CARLISLE.

No.	Date of Report.	Name of Ship.	Tons.	Men.	Whence.	Godsh, Dry, in quintals.	Herrings, in barrels.	Preserved Lobsters, in boxes.	Preserved Salmon, in boxes.	TROUT, in barrels.	Smok'd Herrings, in boxes.	Cod Oil, in gallons.	Salmon, Pickled, in barrels.	Codsh, Green, in barrels.
102	May 25.....	Hematope.....	76	7	Arichat.....	342								
127	June 22.....	M. Martha.....	61	5	Halifax.....		120							
5	July 2.....	Providence.....	81	5	Quebec.....			172	200					
24	" 19.....	Mary.....	22	2	Pictou.....					1				
31	" 29.....	Marceline.....	45	4	Charleston, PEI.....									
24	Aug. 4.....	A.W.C.....	55	5	Queb'c.....	150					20	300		
38	" 9.....	U. J. Tessier.....	44	4	Halifax.....								60	600
80	Oct. 23.....	Anabella.....	72	5	Quebec.....									300
81	" 25.....	A.W.C.....	55	5	do.....									
85	Nov. 15.....	" 85'.....	139	8	Arichat.....	2,535								
						3,027	120	172	200	1	20	300	60	900

RETURN of all Vessels that have entered with Fish, from out of the
Dominion, Season of 1875.

NEW CARLISLE.

Date of Report.	Name of Vessel.	Whence.	Codfish, Dry, in quintals.	Pickled Herrings, in barrels.
1875.				
July 29.....	Adelina	Labrador.....	618	.....
August 4.....	Kossuth	Bay of Islands.....		26
October 4.....	Adelina	Labrador	1,522	.....
			2,140	26

Whale Fishery.

The thick layer of fat which covers the bodies of whales renders it almost insensible to atmospheric variations, and owing to this they are found in nearly every quarter. They have, however, been so eagerly pursued by whalers of different nations that they are only met with now in the polar seas, on the coasts of Greenland and Spitzbergen, in Baffin's Bay, Davis' Straits, and the southern seas. They also enter the Gulf of St. Lawrence and frequent the coast of Labrador, the banks of Mingan, and sometimes are seen as high up as Point des Monts.

Whaling expeditions on our coasts began only when the U. E. Loyalists settled on the shores of Gaspé, after the peace of 1763. Experienced in whale hunting, which they had practised on the coasts of New England, these settlers were not long in discovering what profits could be made by following a pursuit which they were well versed in. Such were the beginnings of the first whaling expeditions. Vessels engaged in them were not at first numerous, being composed of small craft; but their number became larger by degrees, and in a short time not less than one dozen fine large schooners were reckoned as being engaged in that fishery. This was the golden time for Gaspé, and the oldest inhabitants who still remember the enormous profits realized in these expeditions cannot sufficiently condemn the improvidence of whalers who were not prudent enough to secure at that time the wealth and abundance which was pouring on them. The number of schooners engaged in this pursuit has gradually decreased until it is now reduced to three.

The waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence are frequented by three kinds of whales, but the species most sought after is that called "humpbacked," so named from the peculiar formation of their backs. Whales had been so eagerly pursued for some years past by Gaspé fishermen, that they disappeared for the same causes, I presume, which led them to abandon the shores of Europe and America. This fishery having thus become unremunerative was abandoned. Helped by this short breathing time whales had an opportunity to reproduce their species, and during the past two years, they have been noticed in as large quantities as formerly. Whalers engaged in fishing this season, state they saw thousands and thousands of them in the Gulf, but that bad weather prevented the making of a large catch. Three vessels fitted out at Gaspé Basin during the month of June, and had fair success:—The "Admiration," Captain Tripp; the "Lord Douglas," Captain Baker, and the "Violet," Captain Suddard. The result of these expeditions were as follows:—

"Admiration".....	240 barrels.
"Lord Douglas".....	220 do.
"Violet".....	120 do.

The fishing mostly took place on the coasts of Labrador and in the Strait of Belleisle; the cargo of the "Violet" was secured within a short distance from Gaspé. This fishery would have been twice as productive had not rough weather and floating ice made navigation dangerous during the summer and fall. Oil sold for 50 cents a gallon.

Salmon Fishery.

Although this fishery is not of equal importance with the cod and herring fisheries, it nevertheless occupies a very important position; first, on account of the very superior quality of food which salmon supplies to all classes, and secondly on account of the protection given by Government to this industry, on which large sums of money are yearly expended.

Of all the fisheries which were carried on during the past season within our rivers and upon the Gulf shores, salmon fishing probably afforded the poorest results. As I intend dwelling at some length in another part of this report on the probable causes of this failure, I shall here merely allude to the fact. When this country was

first discovered, salmon was very abundant in all our rivers and upon all our coasts: such is the case at the present time on the coasts of California and the western shores of North America. This abundance is such that it influences to a considerable extent the price of our salmon on the market. Excessive fishing, inspired by greediness and ignorance or the desire of present gain only, soon brought our rivers to such a depleted state that the attention of Government was necessarily drawn to the facts. Timely measures were taken to regulate salmon fishing and increase its produce. True, our statutes have from time to time contained laws relative to the protection of these fish, but they were inoperative; there being no regularly constituted authority to enforce them. It was only when Government decided upon fitting out an armed vessel for the protection of our coasts, appointed fishery overseers for the protection of our rivers, and placing under lease or license a certain number of fishery stations that salmon began to increase, and our rivers to improve. When the licensing of salmon fishery stations was determined upon, they yielded such small profits that most of the fishermen, even in what were considered the best localities such as Gaspé, refused to take out licenses, on account of having to pay a mere nominal price for a privilege which they never expected would be again productive. It required a good deal of trouble, attention and expense to re-stock our rivers, in order to obtain the magnificent results which were noticed in 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872 and 1873. If the yield has decreased in an unaccountable manner in 1874 and 1875, the failure must not be attributed to any special cause. There are laws which apply to denizens of the sea as well as to other inhabitants of creation, and which compel them to disappoint our expectations just as we expect them about to be realized. Let the causes of failure in salmon fishery during the past two seasons be what they may, they are worthy of our most careful attention, and should make us adopt every possible means of preventing their recurrence in future. I intend to allude to this point more at length in another part of my report. The decrease in salmon fishing was general this year on our shores, thus abundantly proving that, besides local causes which may have occasioned failures in certain places, there must be some general cause to which such a result is attributable.

Salmon is so well known a fish, that I can see no occasion to write its history. About the end of May these fish begin to ascend our rivers to spawn, and they continue doing so until the month of September. This year they began going up later than usual, and it was only during the month of August that the largest number of them began entering the rivers. This fact, added to unfavourable weather, was the reason that fly as well as net fishermen did not succeed so well as circumstances had led us to expect. The best salmon rivers in the westerly part of this division are those of Cape Chatte, Ste. Anne des Monts and Magdalen. Cape Chatte River is an excellent salmon stream, but contains few fish. It was formerly considered a good angling river, but has been ruined by mill-rubbish and poachers. It is a very difficult stream to guard, the shores on both sides being inhabited as high up as ten miles inland. I am still inclined to believe that, with an efficient guardian, it could in a few years be again made a good trout, if not salmon, river. It is most beautifully adapted for artificial fish-breeding. No stream, however, is better situated for such a purpose than Ste. Anne des Monts River, which became so rapidly and so easily re-stocked when the causes which created a decrease in the number of salmon were removed. Only six barrels of fish were caught in both stations at its mouth; but it must be remarked that the best stand was not fished this year, and that the fish began to ascend much later than usual, after the legal time for net fishing had expired. This circumstance also materially influenced fly-fishing, which yielded only 59 salmon. We are, however, informed by the local Fishery Overseer that the number of fish on the spawning grounds was quite as large as in 1874, and that, had the anglers remained longer, their success would have been as great as in the previous year when 140 fish were taken. This part of the south shore has always been the favourite resort of poachers, and every year we are called upon to proceed against some of this class. I was compelled this season to impose fines of \$10 each upon Isaac Chouinard and Michel Pelletier, of Cape Chatte, for having set trout nets without licenses, and two other fines of \$15 each upon Olivier Viau and Jean Pelletier for

spearing in Ste. Anne des Monts River. At Magdalen River I had also to fine Pierre Ouellet \$40 and Nazaire Ouellet \$20, for spearing salmon in that stream. In all these localities salmon-spearing has for years past been a habitual abuse; and so general was the habit that almost every settler was engaged in it, and although rumours of illegal fishing reached us from every quarter, it was almost impossible to detect the guilty parties, they having an interest in mutually protecting themselves. Thanks to the energy and zeal of Mr. Laurendeau, the newly appointed guardian for the Magdalen division, we were enabled to get hold of the leaders. The heavy penalties imposed, as well as the continuous attention of the local fishery guardian will, I hope, put a stop to these practices. The angling lessee of the river caught but twelve salmon; he having fished only a couple of days. The fishery guardian tells me that, in spite of the enormous quantity of logs which were driven down this river, the spawning beds were full of fish in October. Net-fishing in the neighbourhood of Ste. Anne des Monts and Magdalen River yielded only 57 barrels, against 83 last year.

The salmon fishery stations of Gaspé and Malbaie yielded 357 barrels this year against 528 in 1874—a decrease of 171 barrels, and this falling off has been gradual and steady since 1870. This result is certainly surprising; but we must accept its evidence and consider whether the gradual decrease in the yield of salmon fishing at Gaspé is not due to special causes. The full consideration of this matter I must, however, postpone to a later part of this report.

In order to counter-balance as much as possible the numerous natural causes which lead to the destruction of salmon, your Department caused the building in several localities of artificial breeding-houses. Every one will easily understand the great importance of such establishments for the future welfare of our salmon rivers, if we can succeed in putting into these streams every year thousands of young fish, which will thus escape the innumerable causes of destruction attendant on their natural reproduction; it being calculated that hardly one-tenth of the salmon ova ever succeeds in coming to life when left to nature, whilst it is alleged that by means of artificial propagation ninety per cent of the eggs are safely brought to maturity. I had occasion last summer to visit the fish-breeding establishment which your Department placed at Gaspé, on a small brook emptying into the Dartmouth River, and which is under charge of the local Fishery Overseer, Mr. Vibert. This gentleman seems to thoroughly understand his business, and to be practically acquainted with everything which might be injurious to salmon. As you will undoubtedly receive from him a detailed report of his doings during the year, it will be sufficient to say that, so far, Mr. Vibert's endeavours have been crowned with success, when we take into consideration the difficulties of every kind attendant upon the hatching out of 108,000 fry, which is an average of fifty per cent on the number of eggs deposited in the breeding troughs. In order to secure a larger percentage in the hatching out of the ova, Mr. Vibert spent part of the winter in trying different methods, and he informs me that he is convinced that, by placing the ova upon perforated earthenware trays, instead of zinc trays as at present, the success would be still greater. Out of 1,500 eggs which he thus placed upon a common perforate plate, he lost only fifteen. I should be inclined to favour his views, as the use of such trays would prevent the forming of chemical combinations which are poisonous to the eggs. The only trouble would be the difficulty of procuring these trays.

The number of salmon caught at Malbaie makes up fully one-third of the total quantity taken in the Gaspé and Malbaie divisions, fishing there having been as good as usual. This is evidently due to the fact that bait remained near shore during the whole of the salmon fishery. Malbaie River was set apart to supply salmon for the Gaspé Fish-Breeding Establishment. Most of the salmon caught at Gaspé and Malbaie were sent fresh to Quebec.

I am not aware of the exact number of sportsmen who angled in the rivers of Gaspé, but I know that there was a succession of them during the whole of the fishing season. According to my humble opinion, inconsiderate fly-fishing may prove very injurious to our rivers. I have already alluded to this matter last year, and I intend further to speak of it.

Net-fishing at Pabos and Grand Rivers was about one-half that of last year. The three stands at the mouth of Grand River yielded nine barrels against twenty-one in 1874. Dr. Clerk, who leases the angling privilege of this stream, however, caught as many fish as in 1874. Fish went up on the spawning beds very late in the season. At Port Daniel the catch amounted to 87 barrels, against 112 in 1874. The outside stands were the most successful; the reason of this is found in the fact that small fish upon which salmon feeds, kept for a long time outside, before entering the river and did not come inside the bar. In 1872, '73 and '74, salmon sold here at five cents a pound, and was put up in tins at Mr. Brown's establishment; but this year prices for preserved salmon were so low that the canning establishment was abandoned, and the fish had to be salted. The divisions of New Richmond and Carleton are those where the decrease in salmon was most noticeable, although these divisions contain the renowned rivers of Cascapedia and Restigouche. The number of barrels caught last season was 302, and this in spite of stormy weather which destroyed the nets during the best fishing time. This year we reckon 186 barrels as the total catch; only a little more than one-half. Fly-fishing gave no more favourable results. In 1874 the score in the Grand Cascapedia was 410 salmon to sixteen rods, and this year only 242 to fourteen anglers. Those who ascended the Cascapedia and Bonaventure Rivers state, however, that a large number of fish went up, and that the sport would have been as good as usual had it not been for the high water which prevailed. The falling off is not so large in the Restigouche division; net-fishing, however, yielded only 185 barrels of salmon against 274 in 1874. Fly-fishing may have been somewhat below that of last year, but was altogether highly satisfactory, and sportsmen left the main rivers and tributaries only when the legal time for giving up fishing had arrived.

The run of salmon in Restigouche River was undoubtedly influenced by similar causes which prevailed elsewhere. But, strange as the thing may appear, some fishermen claim that this falling off is due to the fact that in getting older, salmon become more cunning, and begin to understand what terrible enemies the nets are to their welfare. By the way in which they acted, fish seemed to understand what they had to do to escape the nets. It was noticed that the fish swam near shore in large schools, and in a compact body of a triangular form, having a leader to conduct them through dangers, something in the same manner as the leader does in a flock of wild geese. In order to break the triangle and compel the fish to enter the nets, men had to frighten them on the shoals and drive them into the meshes.

The stations which your Departments set apart for the Micmac Indians of Mission Point did not succeed better than the others, however well fished they were by the Indians themselves. These Indians are now well pleased with the privilege granted them of fishing with nets, instead of with spears, as formerly. The latter method possessed no advantage whatever for them, since it was a source of trouble and debauchery, and moreover only a few of them could take advantage of it. These Indians have now no further excuse for idleness and drinking, they have plenty of time to work at all sorts of jobs, during which they are sure their families will have fresh fish every day. The Missionary who has charge of their spiritual wants, informed me that his flock led an exemplary life during the whole summer, and requested me to tender his respectful thanks to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries for the well timed measure which established peace and order in their village.

The owners of canning establishments having offered only three cents a pound for fresh salmon; fishermen thought it more profitable, as I before stated, to salt their catch. Both parties, however, regretted at a later date not having come to an arrangement; the former finding no better advantages for the sale of their pickled fish in Canadian markets, and the latter because the price of canned salmon experienced a considerable rise on the market at the close of the season.

I cannot speak *de visu* of the Fish-Breeding Establishment on the Restigouche River, not having had yet an opportunity of visiting it, but I know that several thousands of fry will be hatched in the spring and ready for restocking the main river and tributaries.

The total quantity of salmon caught on the South shore this season is somewhat over 900 barrels, against 1,529 last year.

Oyster Fishery.

The limits of the present report will not allow me to say anything about the natural history of oysters. They are, besides, so well known and appreciated by amateurs that a few words about them will be sufficient.

Oysters are found in every sea in the world. As a food, they are much sought after, and were known in remote ages. They are of excessive fecundity, and attain their full growth in the space of three years. The principal oyster banks of our Dominion are those of Malbecque, Cocagne, Buctouche and Caraquette; there are none in the Province of Quebec. All the oysters consumed in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, however, do not come from the above mentioned banks, an immense quantity being imported from the United States.

What are the causes which have by degrees brought our oyster banks to the state of poverty and extinction noticed by every one? To this question the answer is very simple; namely, over-fishing. The productive powers of nature are so very powerful, and the laws of general harmony regulating the increase and existence of animated beings so well balanced, that an apparently trivial modification in the conditions of development is sometimes sufficient to give an unlimited impetus to their multiplication in the same manner as a disturbance of the equilibrium between these conditions may be sufficient to cause the decrease and total disappearance of a whole species. The fecundity of oysters is so great that all their natural enemies joined together could not succeed in diminishing the number and extent of the banks, still less to stop for one moment their increase and constant extension. It is, therefore, not against these enemies that we must look for means of defence.

It was apprehended, and with good reason too, that over-fishing would ruin our banks, and in order to obviate this, several attempts at oyster-planting were made in the Province of Quebec at such places as were considered most advantageous. Experiments were made at Gaspé Basin, Bic and Seven Islands, but none of them succeeded. It was thought at the time that the reason of this want of success was due to the quality of the grounds, but the observations made in 1872 and 1873 by J. F. Whiteheaves, Esq., Secretary of the Natural History Society of Montreal, abundantly prove that the causes of failure were due to the difference in the temperature of water. I am inclined to believe that Mr. Whiteheaves has found the real cause of our want of success, and by paying attention to the location of our oyster beds, it will be found that they are all placed in such situations as to be sheltered from storms and from contact with waters in the sea, kept at a low temperature by the ice in the Gulf. From these observations, which I consider well founded, it is evident that we shall have to make up our mind to rely upon the oyster banks which we already possess before attempting to form new ones, and also upon the individual endeavours of those who may be tempted to try experiments which, in other countries such as France and England, give a large revenue to those who undertake it. I cannot say much about oyster banks in the Maritime Provinces, they not being in my division, and I could not therefore examine them on the spot. The only one I had an opportunity of inspecting closely is that of Caraquette, and I must say that it is apparently utterly ruined. I had occasion last fall to examine two schooner loads of oysters from that once famous bank which, according to connoisseurs, are the most delicate in taste and flavor of all Canadian oysters, and I certainly did not count more than one-fourth which were worth opening; the remainder were about the size of a quarter dollar piece, and adhered to piles of shells, which showed how young they were and how utterly ruined were these once famous banks. There is no further excuse for delay. The Department should take the matter in hand and entirely prohibit this fishery for three years. This would be a well-timed measure, which would meet with the approval of sensible men. Without such stringent measures, our oyster banks will be exhausted, and a rich source of revenue lost for ever to the inhabitants of our Dominion. I also consider that it would be a wise

thing to encourage private enterprise in this respect; and I feel sure that if suitable localities for oyster planting, which are very abundant in the Maritime Provinces, were well chosen, the experiment would pay in a few years. Experiments in that direction have already been made by Mr. Pope, on Prince Edward Island, and are said to have met with a perfect success. These undertakings are reported to have succeeded exceedingly well in France. Let us therefore hope that no delay will occur in following the examples already given us, and that we may before long be able to feast upon our delicious oysters at cheaper prices than are paid for those we are compelled to import from the States, and that they will soon become so plentiful as to supply all the demands of *gourmets* in Canada.

Lobster Fishery.

The apprehensions entertained in 1872 from the result of previous excessive fishings were fully realized last season, at any rate, so far as Bay des Chaleurs is concerned, where barely 9,315 pounds of lobsters were prepared, against 216,432 pounds last year. Scientific men have repeatedly asserted that, of all the shell-fish met with near the shore, lobsters were the species which could be more rapidly and easily destroyed. The United States shores prove the truth of this assertion, and those of Bay des Chaleurs have just experienced the injurious effect of such excessive fishing. The regulations made by your Department with regard to lobster fishing undoubtedly had a good effect, but I am decidedly of opinion that, in addition to these regulations which prohibit the catching of lobsters of a certain length and weight, or with eggs attached, there should be another made prohibiting their being fished for, caught or killed altogether at certain periods. According to the opinion of our most intelligent and experienced Fishery Overseers in the divisions of Bay des Chaleurs and Gaspé, this period should extend from the 15th August to the 15th October. This is the time when most of the female fish, with eggs attached, are met with, and according to Mr. Hogg, who owns the canning establishments of Carleton and New Mills in New Brunswick, this is the period when he was compelled to liberate the largest number of lobsters on account of their being in spawning condition. In order to re-establish the equilibrium and re-stock our lobster grounds, some stringent measures must necessarily be adopted. Complaints will undoubtedly arise; it will be said that it is useless to engage in the lobster business with such restrictions. In that case better allow people to fish without let or hindrance during the whole season, and then entirely close the fishing for three years. Without such preventive measures of the kind above mentioned, lobster fishing will, in a very short time, be a thing of the past. Messrs. Fraser and Holliday carried on this business on a large scale, having two establishments, one at Sandy Beach and the other at Malbaie; but I feel sure the gentlemen understand their own interests too well to deliberately ruin the grounds where their industry is carried on, and that they will always know how to maintain the balance between the productive powers and destructive process. Messrs. Fraser and Holliday canned 30,000 pounds at Sandy Beach, and 42,000 pounds at Malbaie. Mr. Vye preserved 9,120 pounds at Port Daniel. This gives a total of 86,964 pounds of preserved lobsters for Gaspé and Bonaventure, against 250,908 pounds in 1874.

Causes of Decline in Salmon Fishery.

The fishery statistics of the present season, as well as those of 1874 and '73 show that there has been a gradual falling off in the yield of salmon, and that, should such a state of things continue for any length of time, this industry would soon become unproductive to those engaged in it. That circumstances exist which we can neither fathom nor control is very probable, since salmon fishing this year failed on all the coasts of the Gulf. This should warn us not to relax in the care and attention bestowed upon breeding rivers and spawning grounds, and above all not to desist in our endeavours to find out the causes of local failures so as to obviate them as much as possible. The greatest disappointment in respect of our rivers would undoubtedly result from our being unprepared to deal with such circumstances as I have just

alluded to. There is no doubt whatever that currents, ice, and the higher or lower state of temperature are so many causes which influence more or less the movements of salmon by preventing them from visiting certain streams or certain localities. These causes of decrease will undoubtedly result in putting a stop to the breeding of salmon, since the fish will be unable to reach their customary spawning grounds: but are we sure that they are the only ones which have been noticed for several years past? I think not; and if we cast a glance behind us and look at the time when *all* our rivers were doomed to total ruin, had not the Government taken timely measures and brought back abundance and plenty, it will be easily understood that these causes of injury were not the result of uncontrollable circumstances of a similar nature to those above mentioned, but were entirely due to the excessive and inconsiderate fishing which had been formerly practised. What happened when fishery laws were duly enforced, the number of salmon fishery stations reduced, the Sunday clause strictly enforced, and the number of sportsmen limited on the spawning pools? The number of fish gradually began to increase until 1869 and 1870; streams which formerly were all but ruined became again as well stocked as when first discovered. What was the result of this happy change? People began to get jealous of the profits realized by neighbouring fishermen who, being sharper, had retained their stations during a whole run of bad seasons, and began to clamour for similar privileges. These men were so poor, their claims were so eagerly pressed by local members, who were anxious to befriend political supporters, and the increase of fish was so extraordinary, that the number of fishing stations gradually increased on our shores, especially in Bay des Chaleurs and on the coast of Gaspé. Fifty licenses for new salmon stands on the coasts of Gaspé and Bay des Chaleurs have been granted during the past six years. More than this; in 1872, not satisfied with having obtained a large number of new stations, salmon fishermen became more greedy, and pressed their local members to have the Sunday clause struck out from the fishery regulations, as being too troublesome. Their request was complied with, through complaisance: but the result of such an injudicious measure was soon apparent. Our rivers soon showed signs of decline, and would in a few years have been again depressed, had not the attention of your Department been seriously awakened by this alarming state of things. The injury done to our salmon streams since 1870 has been caused,—I repeat it,—by the fish being prevented from resorting to their customary breeding grounds and this result has been attained by an increase in the number of stands and the removal of the Sunday clause. Fishermen constantly repeated that it was very unfortunate they should be prevented from fishing on Sunday; that Sunday fishing was equal to the whole week's fishing; that they caught more fish on Sundays than in any other day in the week; and this is very easily understood. Sunday being a day of rest, well observed by cod fishermen, the tranquility around the salmon stations was greater than during any other day of the week, the fish became less wary of the nets, and would therefore be caught in larger numbers. But, they were so many fish which were prevented from visiting the spawning beds. This beneficent "Sunday clause" was fortunately again put in force last spring. So far so good; but I would respectfully suggest that, in order to better ensure the enforcement of this clause, it should be made to read so as to state the precise time during which salmon nets should be raised, say from six o'clock on Saturday night until six o'clock on Monday morning. The advantages as well as the disadvantages of this arrangement would be equal for every body, and would make it much easier to establish violations of the law. Otherwise difficulties are apt to occur, as the guilty party is always sure to fall back on the state of the tide which sometimes varies inside or outside the mouths of rivers.

The remedy to the other cause of decrease in the salmon fishery is apparent; it consists in reducing the number of existing stands. The only difficulty would consist in finding an equitable way of making this reduction. I am of opinion that it would be only fair to abolish all stations which are licensed to non-residents, on the condition that they might be restored when the improved state of our rivers would allow it, as there is no doubt that, with increased attention and the advantages attend-

ing the beneficial results of artificial fish breeding establishments, our rivers may in a few years bear more extensive fishing. The Department might also take off one station from those who already hold two or more stands. No possible injustice could arise from this measure; there being no fish, of what use can the possession of several stations be which do not pay the cost of setting? Much better to have only one, which would pay well. Should the Department see fit to adopt any or all of the above suggestions, I am satisfied its action will meet with the approval of well-thinking and sensible fishermen. By abolishing the stations I have pointed out and granting no new licenses, I consider that we shall succeed in retaining our rivers in good condition.

What I say here applies particularly to salmon fishermen on the South coast who for the most part are well off and chiefly depend upon the returns of their farms for a living. Those of the North shore are not so well situated, and I think it would be an unwise thing to carry the rule as far with them. First of all, the number of stations there is very much below that on the South coast, as well as of less value, and then these men depend entirely upon fishing for a living, and it is only in taking advantage of every fishery that they can succeed in making enough to support their families.

Another cause which I consider must also be injurious to the restocking of our rivers is fly-fishing carried to an excess. If it be a fact that seining on the spawning beds and taking every year from twenty to thirty barrels of fish be exceedingly injurious to a stream, I cannot understand why the same injury will not result when it is done by means of angling. Supposing a small river from which one hundred and forty to two hundred salmon, weighing twenty pounds each, are taken; this makes from ten to thirteen barrels, and if four or five hundred fish are caught in a large stream, the loss to the spawning beds of that river amounts to about thirty barrels, without taking into account the number of wounded fish which afterwards die and are lost. Let not gentlemen anglers think that I desire to go to war with them. Far from me to entertain such a notion. Their annual visits to our shores is a real blessing to settlers and others; but the present occasion is an exceptional one, and if I am compelled to thus speak, it is because I am firmly convinced that several of our rivers are too much angled, and that this mode of fishing is just as injurious to the welfare of our streams as any other mode, when carried to an excess. I may be mistaken, but I have honestly set forth what I consider to be the cause of the impoverishment of our salmon fisheries and the most suitable remedies to cure the evil. The Department will judge whether I am correct or not; but it is certain that speedy remedies are necessary in order not to lose the past work and heavy expenditure incurred, and to reach the success which threatens to be lost should we be too lenient, or guided by an ill-advised liberality.

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men,

COUNTY

Name of Place.	Vessels.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No. of Fishermen.	No of Shoremen.	Salmon Nets.			Cod Seines.		
	No.	Tons.	Value.	No. of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.
Cape Chatte.....	2	66	\$ 770	10	45	2,250	50	\$ 220	90	8	1	160	\$ 100			
Ste. Anne des Monts	4	227	8,200	17	82	4,100	90	1,080	164	22	1	100	50			
Rivière Claude.....					16	1,172	7	75	32	16						
Rivière à Pierre.....					11	720	5	60	22	11						
Mont Louis.....					25	2,027	26	292	50	25	4	790	350			
Anse Pleureuse.....					8	620	6	69	16	8	1	100	50			
Gros Mâle.....					7	525	7	80	14	7	1	120	50			
Manche d'Epée.....					7	505	3	36	14	7						
Madeleine River.....					8	565	9	98	16	8	3	270	110			
Grande Vallée.....					24	1,875	16	172	46	24	2	250	110			
Petit Vallée.....					6	417	5	54	12	6						
Point à la Frégate.....					6	417	4	42	12	6						
Cloridorme.....					25	1,802	23	248	52	23						
Point Sèche.....					16	1,127	14	151	32	16	1	80	40			
Grand Etang.....					20	1,800	1	40	40	20						
Echourie.....					6	450	5	52	12	5						
Pointe Jaune.....					5	385	4	30	10	5						
Anse à Valeau.....					8	602	10	72	16	8						
Grande Anse.....					4	310	3	33	8	3						
Petit Cap.....					13	920	11	114	26	13						
Little Fox River.....					10	720	10	101	29	10						
Great Fox River.....					48	4,635	53	536	96	48						
Anse à Fugère.....					4	275	4	41	8	4						
Anse au Gris Fond & Anse à la Louise }					69	4,821	67	687	136	68						
Cape Rosier.....					30	1,749	30	343	60	30						
Cape Gaspé.....					4	108	5	36	7							
Indian Cove.....					5	164	5	30	12							
St. George's Cove.....					3	140	7	57	9							
Grand Grève.....					17	1,049	16	143	33	16	1	100	26			
Little Gaspé.....					4	142	7	88	13		3	448	170			
Seal Rock.....							1	12	1							
Cape aux Os.....	1	57	600	3	10	146	12	84	18		6	1,400	390			
Peninsula.....	1	58	800	12	4	96	10	100	11		11	2,474	980			
Gaspé Basin.....	2	187	12,000	11												
S. W. Bay.....	1	60	3,000	15	3	100	33	268								
Sandy Beach.....	5	236	7,500	34	8	390	19	120	27		19	4,758	2,120			
Barachois.....	1	22	500	3	41	2,380	41	361	82	18	70	4,080	700			
Douglstown.....	1	63	2,500	4	8	465	11	115	15		10	2,108	780			
Seal Cove.....	1	33	1,000	3	2	120	2	20	4		3	1,220	400			
Anse Briand.....																
Sailor's Cove.....							1	12	1							
Red Head.....					13	1,170	11	99	26		2					
Chien Blanc.....					11	1,100	10	100	22							
Belle Anse.....					5	300	4	48	10		2	700	300			
Point St. Peter.....	6	443	27,000	40	91	7,240	32	322	179	94	2	600	250			
Corner of the Beach.	1	72	2,800	6	12	1,100	12	118	24	1	3	740	400	1	200	40
Malbay.....	1	48	1,200	5	10	740	9	90	20							
Cannes de Roches...	1	61	2,400	5	7	550	8	76	14							
Percé.....	1	50	700	5	139	11,420	78	748	276	200	1	200	100			
Bonaventure Island.					40	1,103	21	68	81	45						
Anse à Beauvils.....					34	2,720	27	264	68	22						
Cape Cove.....	3	217	8,500	17	38	3,800	26	292	74	68	1	250	100			
Cap d'Espoir.....					14	1,900	9	108	28	10						
Grande Rivière.....					83	4,150	21	243	166	102	3	450	250			

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.

OF GASPÉ.

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Seines.			Herring Nets.			Mackerel Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Capelin Seines.			Launce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fishs.		
No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.	
			60	1,200	1,200			\$			\$	1	75	100			\$			\$			
			50	2,000	800							2	110	140	1	30	30						
						18	703	380							1	20	18						
						11	380	220							1	20	18						
						48	2,440	880							4	80	80	4	400	400			
						10	355	200															
			7	291	136																		
			8	450	153				1	40	20												
			8	318	156																		
			44	1,222	574				2	80	40				2	130	130						
			9	360	153																		
			7	280	125																		
			45	1,800	780																		
			35	2,060	594				5	200	70												
			40	1,400	700				4	120	60	1	90	100									
			10	400	167				3	120	45												
			8	320	112																		
			15	560	252				2	80	30												
			7	280	125																		
			21	820	368				1	40	12												
			17	680	296																		
			101	4,680	1,653				13	520	200	11	555	789									
			5	200	87																		
			137	5,450	2,244				12	480	165	5	240	385									
			58	2,275	1,067	1	60	150	4	160	67	7	280	395									
			6	254	25				1	50	6	1	20	5									
			9	340	60				3	100	32	1	30	6									
			7	266	96				5	242	44	1	24	16									
			31	1,964	620	1	400	300	9	561	160	2	120	80	1	60	45						
			8	312	62				11	350	84	1	60	60									
			1	36	2																		
			7	265	91				1	36	5												
			1	30	5																		

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels. number of Men, COUNTY

Name of Place.	Vessels.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No. of Fishermen.	No. of Shoremen.	Salmon Nets.			Cod Seines.		
	No.	Tons.	Value.	No. of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.
Petite Rivière.....	\$...	26	2,580	11	132	52	9	...	...	\$	...	...	...
White Head.....	1	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Little Pabos.....	62	5,280	25	320	126	77	2	400	320	...	...	...
Grand Pabos.....	19	1,110	8	92	41	13	4	980	520	...	...	...
New Port.....	76	7,600	37	320	152	...	2	150	80	...	...	...
Total.....	32	4,900	79,470	190	1,292	93,952	973	9,624	2,606	1,078	157	22,928	6,746	1	200	40

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.—*Continued.*

OF GASPÉ.—*Continued.*

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Seines.			Herring Nets.			Mackerel Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Capelin Seines.			Launce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fish's	
No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.
.....	76	3,048	1,062	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	286	104	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2	8	36	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	117	4,361	1,635	.....	.....	.....	2	50	50	6	362	232	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	33	3,420	698	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	130	2,600	1,773	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	310	300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2,210	83,130	33,652	90	2,618	2,530	115	5,003	1,678	126	6,494	5,103	18	646	534	4	400	400	.....	.....

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men, COUNTY

NAME OF STATION.	Salmon, barrels, (cured).	Salmon, (fresh in ice,) Lbs.	Salmon, (in cans,) Lbs.	Salmon, (smoked).	Cod Quintals.		Haddock, quintals.	Ling, quintals.	Halibut, barrels.	Herring, barrels.
					Summer Fishing.	Fall Fishing.				
Cape Chatte.....	3				900	60				
Ste. Anne des Monts.....	6	1,209			2,400	570			2	2
Rivière Claude.....					263					
Rivière à Pierre.....					250					
Mont Louis.....	24				1,040					
Anse Pleureuse.....	4				214					
Gros Mûle.....	9				240					
Manche d'Epée.....					162				2	5
Madeleine River.....	18				265					
Grande Vallée.....	2				1,085					
Petite Vallée.....					290					
Pointe à la Frégate.....					233					
Cloridorme.....					1,362				3	
Pointe Sèche.....					890					
Grand Etang.....					1,260					
Echourie.....					260					
Pointe Jaune.....					345					
Anse à Valeau.....					440				1	
Grande Anse.....					105					
Petit Cap.....					677					
Little Fox River.....					555					
Great Fox River.....					2,830					
Anse au Gris Fond.....					3,360					
Anse à Fugère.....					125					
Cape Rosier.....					1,525					3
Indian Cove.....					286	91				17
St. George's Cove.....					9	60			5	5
Grande Grève.....		546			1,266	246	50		4	4
Little Gaspé.....	4	2,500			177	54			3	5
Seal Rock.....					30					
Cap aux Os.....		4,887			65	29				
Peninsula.....		15,009			2	1				
Ship's Head.....					145	52				5
South West Bay.....										40
Sandy Beach.....		11,422			139	53				
Barachois.....		14,400			1,777	942				
Douglstown.....		5,454			373	105				
Seal Cove.....		2,966			90	30				
Sailor's Cove.....					50					
Red Head.....					1,040				1	26
Chien Blanc.....					880					22
Belle Anse.....		4,800			300					
Point St. Peter.....	1	2,183			4,720	205				45
Corner of the Beach.....	9	300			450	40				4
Malbay.....					995	153				6
Cannes de Roches.....					380					
Percé.....					10,730	1,322			8	5
Bonaventure Island.....					2,910	232				37
Anse à Beaufils.....					2,470	540				30
Cape Cove.....		385			3,130	225			2	118
Cap d'Espoir.....					1,390	120				
Grande Rivière.....		1,865			4,861	1,910			10	101
Petite Rivière.....					2,070	375			5	45

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c.—*Continued.*

OF GASPÉ.—*Continued.*

Smoked Herring, boxes.	Mackerel, barrels.	Trout, barrels.	Sardines, barrels.	Eels, barrels.	Tunny, barrels.	Cod Tongues and Sounds.	No. of Seals.	No. of Seal-skins.	No. of Whales.	No. of Porpoises.	Oils.			Fish used as Manure.			
											Seal Oil, Gallons.	Whale Oil, Gallons.	Porpoise Oil, Galls.	Cod Oil, Gallons.	Herring, barrels.	Capelin, barrels.	Smolt, barrels.	Cod Roe, barrels.
.....	7	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	.....	1,000	.....	.....
.....	17	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,495	.....	2,000	.....	.....
.....	263	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	1,040	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	214	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	240	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	162	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	265	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,085	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	290	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	233	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	1,362	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	890	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,260	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	260	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	345	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	440	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	165	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	677	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	555	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2,830	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	3,360	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	125	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	1,525	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	331	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	134	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	508	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	180	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	13	.....	.....	.....	7,213	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....
.....	11	.....	.....	.....	9,093	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	3	.....	.....	.....	4,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....
.....	162	.....	.....	.....
.....	2,286	.....	985	.....
.....	379	.....	.....	.....
.....	80	.....	.....	.....
.....	33	.....	.....	.....
.....	780	.....	.....	.....
.....	650	.....	.....	.....
.....	250	.....	.....	.....
.....	4,956	.....	.....	.....
.....	447	.....	.....	.....
.....	370	.....	.....	.....
.....	270	.....	.....	.....
.....	141	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,009	.....	.....	4
.....	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,154	.....	.....	.....
.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,910	.....	.....	28
.....	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,430	.....	.....	40
.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,115	.....	.....	57
.....	83	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	17	2,626	.....	120	246
.....	31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,659	.....	.....	55

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men, COUNTY

NAME OF STATION.	Salmon, barrels, (cured.)	Salmon, (fresh in ice,) Lbs.	Salmon, (in cans,) Lbs.	Salmon, (smoked.)	Cod Quintals.		Haddock, quintals.	Ling, quintals.	Halibut, barrels.	Herring, barrels.
					Summer Fishing.	Fall Fishing.				
White Head.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	30	.....	.....	.....	2
Little Pabos.....	14	.....	.....	.....	3,311	1,985	.....	.....	.....	37
Grand Pabos.....	15	.....	.....	.....	2,500	25	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Port.....	16	.....	.....	.....	4,475	1,830	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	125	67,926	.....	.....	72,112	11,285	50	.....	37	56½

RECAPITU

VALUE OF THE DIFFERENT

		\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Summer Cod fishing.....	72,112 quintals at.....	5	00	360,560	00
Autumn do	11,285 do	5	00	56,425	00
Herring fishing.....	564 barrels	5	00	2,820	00
Haddock do	50 quintals	5	00	250	00
Halibut do	37 barrels	6	00	222	00
Salmon (pickled).....	125 do	16	00	2,000	00
do (fresh in ice).....	67,926 pounds	0	05	3,396	30
Trout fishing.....	29 barrels	8	00	232	00
Lobster (preserved).....	77,844 pounds	0	25	19,461	00
Fish used as manure.....	4,885 do	0	25	1,221	25

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c.—*Continued.*

OF GASPÉ.—*Continued.*

Smoked Herring, boxes.	Mackerel, barrels.	Trout, barrels.	Sardines, barrels.	Eels, barrels.	Tunny, barrels.	Cod Tongues and Sounds.	No. of Seals.	No. of Seal-skins.	No. of Whales.	No. of Porpoises.	Oils.				Fish used as Manure.			
											Seal Oil, Gallons.	Whale Oil, Gallons.	Porpoise Oil, Galls.	Cod Oil, Gallons.	Herring, barrels.	Capelin, barrels.	Smelt, barrels.	Cod Roes, barrels.
.....	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,557	.....	156	.....	100
.....	1,200	.....	.....	.....	36
.....	6,500	.....	.....	.....	64
.....	29	.....	.....	.....	383	.....	.....	27	1	.....	20,306	17	65,458	.....	4,261	.....	624

LATION.

FISHERIES OF GASPÉ DIVISION.

			\$	cts.		\$	cts.
Cod Tongues and Sounds.....	383		7	00		2,681	00
Cod Oil.....	65,458	gallons	0	50		32,729	00
Whale Oil.....	20,306	do	0	80		16,244	80
Porpoise Oil.....	17	do	0	80		13	60
Total value of the products of the Fisheries in 1875.....						498,255	95
do	do	do	1874.....			466,361	20
Increase.....						31,894	75

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men, COUNTY OF

NAME OF PLACE.	Vessels.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No. of Fishermen.	No. of Shoremen.	Salmon Nets.			Cod Seines.		
	No.	Tons.	Value.	No. of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.
			\$			\$		\$					\$			\$
Anse au Gascon.....					40	2000	30	300	80	1	150	65				
Anse à Barbe.....					12	600	12	120	24	1	120	50				
Port Daniel.....					40	2000	25	250	80	11	5540	1700				
Point Loup Marin.....					1	80	30	300	25							
Chigouac.....					9	450	20	200	20							
Nouvelle.....					40	2400	35	350	80							
Point Paspebiac.....					20	1000	16	160	40							
Paspebiac.....	37	3988	110000	218	40	1760	33	330	80	160						
New Carlisle.....	2	76	15000	7	6	260	6	60	12	6	8	300	150			
Grand and Little Bonaventure.....					56	4480	56	560	112	56						
Capelin, Black Cape & New Richmond.....					9	324	4	40	18	7	119	4270	2135			
Maria.....					15	568	10	100	40	10	210	7560	3780			
Carleton.....					10	440	6	60	26	125	4478	2239				
Nouvelle.....					5	220	12	120	10	62	2240	1120				
Maguasha.....										1	170	50				
Fleurants Point.....										4	700	350				
Englishman's Brook.....										1	150	60				
Escuminac Point.....										1	75	40				
Pointe à La Garde.....										1	200	100				
Battery Point.....										1	75	40				
Little Battery.....										2	200	100				
Cross Point.....										1	175	95				
Mission Point.....										2	400	200				
Bourdon Point.....										3	420	210				
	39	4064	125000	225	303	16582	295	2950	647	239	554	27223	12484			

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.—*Continued.*

BONAVENTURE.

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Seines.			Herring Nets.			Mackerel Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Capelin Seines.			Launce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fishries	
No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.
		\$			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$		\$
100	4000	1000	100	4000	1000							10	400	350								
25	1000	250	25	1000	250							2	80	60								
100	4000	1000	100	4000	1000							5	200	175								
40	1600	400	40	1600	400							4	150	120								
25	1000	250	25	1000	250							3	120	100								
90	3240	900	90	3240	900							10	400	400								
50	1800	500	50	1800	500							5	200	200								
40	1440	520	40	1440	520				40	1280	280	7	680	610								
6	240	80	6	240	80				6	190	70	6	240	220								
56	2116	780	56	2116	780				56	1790	680	25	1000	900							2	10
9	324	130	9	324	130				9	290	110	7	280	250								
20	720	280	20	720	280				10	520	120	1	40	36							5	30
13	469	180	13	469	180							6	120	70								
5	180	70	5	180	70				3	100	40											
579	22129	6340	579	22129	6340				124	4170	1300	91	3910	3491							7	40

NAME OF STATION.	Salmon, Barrels, (cured).	Salmon, (fresh in ice).	Salmon, (in cans).	Salmon, (smoked).	Cod, Quintals.		Haddock, Quintals.	Ling, Quintals.	Halibut, Barrels.	Herring, Barrels.
					Summer Fishing.	Fall Fishing.				
Anse au Gascon.....	6									
Anse à Barbe.....	8									
Port Daniel and Bay	74		9,120		2,575	2,670				1,020
Paspebiac					500	1,000	30	10		
New Carlisle.....	2				90	180	4	3		
Grand and Little Bonaventure.					1,020	1,008	40	16		1,750
Capelin, Black Cape and New Richmond	36				90	90	2			50
Maria			19,936		200	180		4		
Carleton			4,450		50	10				
Nouvelle.....	40				50	18				
Maguasha	6									
Fleurants Point.....	25	6,900								
Englishman's Brook.....		1,200								
Eseuminac Point		1,200								
Pointe à la Garde.....	32									
Battery Point.....	4									
Little Battery.....	4									
Cross Point.....	42									
Mission Point.....		4,500								
Bourdon Point.....			11,700							
Total.....	279	13,800	45,206		4,575	5,156	76	33		2,820
Fly-fishing:—River Bonaventure.....										
do do Little Cascapedia.....									390	Salmon.
do do Grand do									60	do
do do Matapedia.....									4,035	do
do do Upsalquitch									995	do
do do Restigouche, 1st Division									1,355	do
do do do 2nd do									3,315	do
Tidal Net-fishing.....									1,260	do
									5,017	do
Total.....									16,427	do
N.B.—Lobsters (preserved).....									9,120	lbs.

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE of the different Fisheries of Bonaventure Division.

		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Summer Cod-fishing.....	4,575 quintals	at..... 5 00	= 22,875 00
Autumn do	5,156 do	..... 5 00	25,780 00
Herring fishery.....	2,820 barrels	..... 5 00	14,100 00
Mackerel do	15 do	.....10 00	150 00
Haddock do	76 quintals	..... 5 00	380 00
Ling do	33 do	..... 5 00	165 00
Salmon (pickled).....	279 barrels	.....16 00	4,464 00
do (fresh in ice).....	30,227 lbs	..... 0 05	1,511 35
do (in cans).....	45,206 do	..... 0 25	11,301 50
Trout fishery.....	17 barrels	..... 8 00	136 00
Eel do	11 do	.....12 00	132 00
Lobsters (preserved).....	9,120 do	..... 0 25	2,280 00
Fish used as manure.....	18,550 do	..... 0 25	4,637 50
Cod Oil.....	7,160 gallons	..... 0 50	3,590 00
Cod Tongues and Sounds.....	8 barrels	..... 7 00	56 00
Total value of the products of the Fisheries, 1875.....			91,558 35
do do do 1874.....			212,640 50
Decrease.....			121,082 15

LABRADOR DIVISION.

This year's fishing is one of the most disastrous which has been experienced for a long period on the coast of Labrador. There were many complaints during the fall of 1874, but these were nothing compared to the falling off experienced in 1875. The people of this division considered themselves poor with 39,422 quintals of cod, 6,283 barrels of herring, and 1,836 barrels of salmon, in 1874. What will now be the state of things with only 27,260 quintals of cod, 9,105 barrels of herring, 1,204 barrels of salmon, and the balance of other fish in proportion? These remarks will enable every one to understand what would have been the state of affairs on that coast during the present winter, had not a portion of its population migrated to the south shore in search of more hospitable lands. I think that some twenty or thirty families will succeed in crossing over to Newfoundland or Halifax; the rest have already moved to parishes on the south shore, and intend wintering there, returning to their homes next spring. Later news are, however, more cheering. An abundant herring fishery did, late in the fall, supply the wants of those who were compelled to remain, thus making them richer than those who had left on account of their not having a sufficiency of provisions to enable them to remain until spring. By reason of their possessing nothing to exchange, traders would not supply them with provisions during the summer; but a bountiful herring fishery and a successful fur hunting, which began early, enabled them to procure everything required for their subsistence during the winter. The fishermen for whom we now entertain the greatest amount of apprehension are those of Moisie and Seven Islands. Having done nothing in the way of fishing, they relied upon Mr. Molson's establishment for work during the winter, when the bankruptcy of this firm during the latter part of the season compelled them to close their establishment and cease working. Great hardships and misery will prevail on this coast during our long and dreary Canadian winter. Even last summer, if any reliance is to be placed on the Fishery Overseer's statement, some families were compelled to gather and feed upon small dead fish thrown upon the shore by the sea. The colony which migrated from Magdalen Islands to Seven Islands, becoming discouraged with the bad fishing of the two years past, had decided upon returning to their native Island where fishing has been so successful since their leaving, as to make them regret their hasty abandonment of it. They applied for a schooner, whose arrival they waited until the end of the season; but, as it failed to come, a great deal of hardship and misery must naturally be expected, and perhaps sickness will prevail before the close of the winter. Kegashia is another locality where the population is poor, and where fishing failed; but the settlers are few, and can always find work or assistance from those of Natashquan, who succeeded well this year.

Labrador is an immense peninsula, extending over an area of 450,000 superficial miles, and bounded by the Atlantic, the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Hudson's Bay. It is divided into three distinct regions; the middle one belongs to Canada, and is bounded on the East by Blank Sablon Bay, in the Strait of Belleisle. The north coast and that of Labrador being situated in high latitudes cannot be considered as agricultural countries. Potatoes and other vegetables, however, grow well, and even some grain, as rye, can be cultivated; but the production in this respect is too limited to be worth mentioning. Its fisheries used to form a monopoly in the hands of a few individuals; but the existence of these firms has ceased for the last thirty years, and fishing is now free to everyone, and opened to competition from the Maritime Provinces, United States and Newfoundland. There are few permanent establishments on the coast of Labrador. Some Jersey firms, of Bay des Chaleurs, have however, during the past few years, erected magnificent buildings and formed establishments which almost rival those of the south shore: such are those of Magpie, Thunder River, Sheldrake and Natashquan. New ones are being put up at St. John River and Moisie. Messrs. Sirois, of L'Islet, and Hamilton, of New Carlisle, have also very fine buildings at St. John River.

Most of the articles exported from the north shore are sent to Halifax, Gaspé and Quebec, and are composed, of cod, salmon herring, seal oil and furs, brought by Montagnais Indians who hunt in the interior. Fishing is generally most productive, if we except some particularly disastrous seasons, such as that of last year. The only means of subsistence on this barren part of the coast of Canada being fish, the hardships to which settlers are exposed (should this harvest fail) will be easily understood. This year's poverty, and their gradual state of decline, has no other attributable cause but the disappearance of fish. It is therefore not an easy thing to remedy such an evil on a coast where fishing is the only resource of the inhabitants. I cannot point out any other cure than well directed labour, and a falling back upon the savings made in a year of abundance. But, in order to obviate or rather to shorten as much as possible the danger of periodical scarcity which occurs on this coast after an unsuccessful fishing, I think that the forwarding of a mail during winter, which would leave Bonne Espérance about the end of January and join the Mingan mail which reaches Quebec in February, would have a good effect. I understand that a petition to this effect has been signed and forwarded to the Government, which would thus be made acquainted with the pressing wants of these remote settlers who have no representatives to take their interests in hand. Whenever necessary, relief might be sent them towards the end of March, as it is about that time their wants are most pressing, their hardships greater, and sickness most prevalent. The settlers might also be successful in seal-fishing and fur-hunting during the fall, and such a mail would enable them to communicate with merchants from whom they might order provisions to be sent at the early opening of navigation; otherwise the provisions would arrive too late and the sufferings of fishermen would be needlessly prolonged. The establishment of this mail would cost only a trifle and would be of the greatest advantage.

The severe hardships which our people on the north coast have been subject to will undoubtedly bear their fruits, and make the regular settlers understand how advantageous it would be for them to cultivate a few vegetables which thrive well there, and would at any rate be of some assistance to them in cases of distress.

Communications between the north and south shores are now comparatively easy, thanks to the postal service, established for a couple of years past between Gaspé and Anticosti, and several localities on the north coast from Sheldrake to Natashquan. Another semi-monthly service has been organized between Matane and the north coast from Godbout to Moisie, and the Newfoundland Government this year chartered the steamer "Ariel," which is engaged to carry the mails between St. John, Newfoundland and the lower part of Labrador, from Bonne Espérance to St. Charles Islands.

Whilst speaking of the fisheries of this division in detail, I shall touch upon certain points which could not be treated in the present article.

COD FISHERY.

As already stated in previous reports, the north shore, especially that portion known as the Coast of Labrador, was the first part of our country frequented by strangers for cod fishing. Although some historians allege that this industry has been carried on from a very early period, the first vessel mentioned in history which is known to have been engaged in fishing on the banks of Newfoundland, was fitted out by a Portuguese named Gaspard de Costo-Réal. Further expeditions were started in the beginning of the sixteenth century, and at a later period we find Basques and Spaniards settled on the coast of Labrador, as shown by the ruins of an old Fort in Bradore Bay, which agrees with Jacques Cartier's statement on his first voyage to Canada of his having met with Spanish vessels returning from fishing. French and Spaniards were the first cod fishermen who repaired to the coast of Labrador, where they were soon joined by New-Englanders and their neighbours from the Maritime Provinces. Up to 1828 and 1829, none but strangers went there to fish,

but after that date schooners from Berthier, St. Thomas and L'Islet also repaired to the north shore for the same purposes. The crews were, however, so badly treated by strangers, that they were compelled to give up these expeditions. Most of the oldest settlers on this coast are composed of the crews of these schooners. The number of foreign fishing vessels resorting to the coast of Labrador has greatly diminished, hardly sixty of them being reckoned in one season. But now that the Hudson's Bay Company has relinquished its claim to the fisheries of the coast, and above all, since seal hunting and fishing has ceased to yield large profits, cod fishing has greatly increased. So soon as the Government resumed its right to these coasts, the fame of its fisheries spread abroad, colonies of new settlers gradually arrived and villages rose as if by enchantment. Sheldrake, Magpie, St. John River and Long Point were thus formed of new arrivals from Gaspé, and the pleasant posts of Esquimaux Point and Natashquan were settled by Magdalen Islands fishermen. No other fishing is practiced on the coast of Labrador but the summer fishery; the weather generally becomes so rough after the 15th of August that it is unsafe to go outside on account of storms and currents.

Whilst speaking of cod-fishing on the coasts of Gaspé, occasion was taken to state that the fish mostly resorted to the same localities every year. These migrations are not so regular on the north coast, cod being sometimes more abundant than on the south shore; but its visits are more irregular, and the fish also fails entirely in certain places where the year before it appeared in the greatest possible abundance.

The most renowned spots for cod-fishing are English Bay, near Seven Islands, where a certain number of fishermen repair for summer fishing; Moisie, Sheldrake, Magpie, St. John River, Natashquan, Kegashea, Coacoahoo Islands, Mecatina, Pacachoo, Bonne Espérance and Blanc Sablon. Last season was, however, an exceptional one; the fish having almost entirely failed from Natashquan to Bonne Espérance. Each fishing boat, with two men, did not average more than fifteen quintals. About one hundred schooners from Magdalen Islands, Newfoundland and the Maritime Provinces, with crews of ten men each, did not average more than one hundred quintals of fish. Fishing boats at Blanc Sablon caught eighty quintals each; at Natashquan, fifty; at Moisie and Seven Islands, from twelve to fifteen. The best fishing was made at Magpie, Thunder Bay, St. John River and Long Point, where boats averaged from eighty to ninety-five quintals each.

Cod fishing on the north shore is generally carried on with hook and line. Trawl fishing is, however, beginning to be introduced, especially on the River St. John's banks and around Anticosti. Seines are also used in certain localities. The latter mode of fishing has become a real blessing to the owners of these engines, and it would be well if fishermen on the coast were to associate in groups of ten and provide themselves with cod seines. The fishing season is so short that there are a hundred chances against one that good hauls will be made with seines; thus preventing utter failures which occur now and then. There are only five or six seines on our coasts.

Cod cannot be so well prepared on the north shore as on the south, owing to more unfavourable weather; still it realizes about the same price on the markets. Fish caught above Mingan is sold to Gaspé and Paspébiac firms; below these points it is generally purchased by Halifax and Newfoundland traders.

The fishery statistics show that the quantity of cod caught this year on the north shore amounted to 27,260 quintals, against 39,422 in 1874. This must be reckoned as the most unfortunate season experienced since 1862, when the yield was only 9,980 quintals.

Codfish Seines.

In a special report which I made last year, I took occasion to allude at length to the practice of fishing for cod with seines, against the use of which the represen-

tatives of Jersey firms having establishments on the Gulf shores made strong representations, under the specious pretence that the use of these engines would, in a couple of years, ruin the fishing grounds and utterly destroy the fish. I shall not repeat here the arguments already advanced to show that this mode of fishing which has been used on the coast for at least one hundred years has not yet caused any material injury to the grounds or to the fish, and that it should be rather encouraged than otherwise; but I will merely state that the regulation made to conciliate both the hook-and-line and seine fishermen, was well observed to their mutual satisfaction, and that it would have been a great misfortune for the coast of Labrador had the owners of seines been prohibited from using them. There are but seven seines on the coast; their owners are the only ones who caught enough to secure provisions and assist their less successful neighbours during our long winter, and it would have been a real hardship to stop them. And, I may safely repeat that, in these localities where seines have been most in use for the past one hundred years; namely from Bonne Esperance to St Charles Islands; codfish were most abundant. The fishery statistics show that the owners of seines employ between fourteen and twenty men each. It will thus be seen what a loss these people would have sustained, had it not been for one or two successful hauls.

Mackerel and Halibut Fisheries.

Although the fisheries above stated are of a great importance to our American neighbours, very little interest is taken in them by our Quebec fishermen. Both these kinds of fish may, however, be considered as the most important frequenting the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence owing both to their abundance as well as to the high prices which they realize on foreign markets. Fishermen from the Maritime Provinces as well as those from Magdalen Islands have, however, during the past few years, begun to pay some attention to these fisheries, the products of which they can advantageously dispose of owing to their proximity to the United States. It being impossible to preserve this fish in a warm climate, where cod is usually disposed of, Gaspé merchants and others are not particularly anxious to buy them. This is the reason why, finding no markets for it, Canadian fishermen allow this inexhaustible source of revenue to be manipulated by foreigners.

Some naturalists have expressed the opinion that mackerel left our shores during winter and migrated to the polar seas, but later scientific observations show that these fish merely recede from the shore in order to betake themselves to deeper water. The observations made by Mr. Whiteher, on this subject, and published in a special report, are strongly corroborated by my own experience.

With the exception of the people of Gaspé and Magdalen Islands, who are more or less extensively engaged in mackerel fishing, no other fishermen from the Province of Quebec turn their attention to it. The small amount of mackerel caught is secured in herring nets set for the purpose of procuring bait. Most of the foreign fishermen engaged in mackerel fishing hail from the ports of Gloucester, Newbury, &c., in Massachusetts. About twelve hundred schooners, of a fine model, sail every year from these places to engage in fishing on our shores and those of the Maritime Provinces.

The migrations of mackerel are very peculiar. They visit certain localities one season and may be several years without returning to it. Pleasant Bay and the neighbourhood of Magdalen Islands are probably the only localities which they do not fail to visit every season. Pleasant Bay especially is so favorably situated for the breeding of fish that it is no wonder their instinct drives them to it for the purpose of spawning. Mackerel schools follow herring in the waters of the St. Lawrence. These fish are found around Magdalen Islands and Prince Edward Island about the beginning of June when they are caught with nets. Towards the later part of June they leave these localities to return again about the middle of July to

Magdalen Islands, Bay des Chaleurs, on the coast of Gaspé, the north shore, at Seven Islands and later still in the neighbourhood of Godbout; they are then in prime condition and in their best state for the market. At this date mackerel are caught with hook and line, and when sufficiently near shore, with seines.

Mackerel remained a long time around the shores of Magdalen Island and Prince Edward Island this season; they were also very abundant at Godbout, and large quantities might have been secured had the people been provided with seines. A few stray schools were noticed on other parts of the sea-shore. They have not been met with for four years on the coast of Labrador, and the statistics of this year return only thirty barrels as having been caught there during the whole summer. The catch on the coasts of Gaspé amounted to 1,322 barrels in 1874, representing a value of \$13,200; this year, only fifteen were caught.

Halibut as well as Mackerel fishing is carried on on our shores only by vessels from the United States. Schooners of the finest model and fast sailers are engaged in this fishery. Our fishermen take a few when fishing for cod, since these fish frequent the same grounds. They generally sell in the States at from fifteen to twenty cents a pound, whilst on our markets they seldom realize more than six dollars a barrel.

Halibut is found in great abundance along the whole of the north coast, from Natashquan to Godbout, as well as around Anticosti Island; it would undoubtedly be equally met with on the coasts of Gaspé, but nobody there fishes for it. An American schooner, however, took a cargo this season near shore, between Magdalen River and Gros Cap; this would lead me to believe that were an attempt made, mackerel would be found in the neighbourhood of Gaspé Cape, but American schooners prefer the north coast where harbours are handier and safer. Ten schooners from the United States took cargoes of halibut in 1874 along the north coast, but only four or five were engaged in this fishery during the present season. The reason of this falling off I am unaware of, although the fish were as abundant as usual. The Labrador fishermen caught 23 barrels this year, against 21 in 1874, and on the south shore 135 barrels in 1874, against 37 barrels in 1875.

Salmon Fishery.

The rivers of this division, when first visited by travellers, were found to be so full of fish that one of them wrote to his friends in Europe telling them that a vessel could be loaded in three days from one of these streams—the River St. Paul, I believe. But there, as everywhere else, the same causes brought the same results: and there, as well as on the south shore, the Government was compelled to make laws and regulations in order to secure the restocking of these streams. The favourable results of protection were more felt on the north than on the south coast; the proof of it being found in the marked improvement which has been noticed during the past few years in the yield of formerly renowned streams such as Moisie, Natashquan and St. John Rivers. This season, unfortunately, there was a great falling off; still salmon fishing was better than on the south shore. With the exception of Natashquan and Watsheeshoo, where the yield of salmon appears to have been as good, if not larger, than in former years, the other divisions exhibit a great decrease in the salmon catch of the two past years. At Trinity River, for instance, Messrs. Clark and Bilodeau caught only ten barrels, instead of forty; the usual catch. Moisie returns only three hundred and forty barrels against upwards of five or six hundred for other years since 1868. St. John River yielded one hundred barrels against two hundred in 1874. The outside stations hardly covered their bare expenses; for instance, at Moisie, Mr. Chisholm's station caught only six barrels, against eighty, in 1874; Mr. Poirier's dwindled down to three, instead of eighty, and at Ste. Marguerite Messrs. Joncas and Talbot caught only six barrels, instead of thirty in 1874. The same decrease was noticed elsewhere.

Moisie River was angled by six sportsmen, and St. John River by two; neither of them had any great sport. Salmon caught with the fly at Moisie may be valued at five barrels, against twenty last year. Mr. McGregor killed 145 fish in St. John River. Streams are, however, reported to be well stocked, although there appears not to be so many fish as in 1874 upon the spawning beds. Salmon began to enter the rivers late in the fall; this may account for the failure in both net and fly-fishing.

The artificial fish-breeding establishment which the lessee of the net-fishing division keeps up at his own cost did not succeed this year. Mr. Holliday attributes his unsuccess to the bad quality of the water in the creek upon which the establishment is located; he has therefore decided upon changing the locality and placing it on another brook. The license of the net-fishing privilege of Mingan River not having been renewed this season, the breeding pools were consequently visited by a much larger number of fish than usual; but, strange to say, there were only about the same number as last year killed with the fly. This may, however, be due to particular causes, such as unfavourable weather, &c., &c.

I have already had occasion to allude in my annual report of last year on the strangeness of Sir George Gore's conduct towards your Department, its officers and the settlers as well as the Indians of Mingan; I also took occasion to mention the effrontery with which he violated the fishery laws, and the misplaced tenderness he exhibited towards his dogs by feeding them on trout when at a few steps' distance Indians, weakened by disease, were starving without his heart being at all moved by such a spectacle. We have no similarly disgraceful scenes to regret this year, as we happened to be on the spot in time to effect a compliance with the law which in spite of the repeated warnings of your Department he had already managed to violate three times. Such conduct on the part of a titled person is not pleasant to report; and I must add, to the praise of sportsmen generally that it is a rare exception. All the anglers whom I have met since 1869 are gentlemen, well bred, imbued with a large share of liberality and paying great attention to a strict and cheerful compliance with the fishery laws and to the directions of the officers. No wonder, therefore that their arrival is considered a godsend by the settlers who may happen to come in contact with them. It is not so with Sir George Gore. He left the coast, carrying with him the contempt of every one, and finally compromising himself by foolish actions such as burning his fishing huts and furniture that they might not be of service to the Indians or fishermen of the locality. Men of this disposition are very troublesome, and I hope the Department will see the necessity of being careful to whom it leases our rivers. The example of such a person who despises the fishery laws, who on every possible occasion, defies, villifies and persecutes its officers, cannot be anything else but a source of disagreement and disorder among fishermen and Indians, especially those who witnessed the crazy feats this individual performed in their presence. Whilst they were decimated by illness and hunger, Sir George Gore was fattening his dogs upon fish which might have helped to save whole families of their tribes. Such a sight could only raise their indignation against everyone and especially against our fishery laws; and I am the more led to this belief by the opinion of Mr. Scott, the Hudson's Bay Cos.' agent at Mingan, who assures me that the former peaceable and quiet temper of these Indians has so much changed for the past two years that he can with difficulty compel obedience from them. This irritation in their temper nearly caused them to commit a murder this year upon a sportsman who had visited Sir George Gore's camp. Providence fortunately prevented the accomplishment of such a dreadful deed. His narrow escape from exasperation, caused by the conduct of the former, warns me to draw your serious attention to the mischief which such men may occasion.

The situation of the Mingan Indians has, for several years past, become exceedingly precarious. After several months of hardships suffered in hunting, through snow, cold weather and storms, they have for a hundred years past been in the habit of returning every spring to Mingan. There they spend five or six weeks on the seashore with their missionaries, exchange the product of their hunt for clothes and

ammunition; and take some rest before again returning to the woods. These were their holidays. Fish were abundant in the rivers, seals plenty on the coast and feathered game of all sorts could be found on the neighbouring islands; so that their mode of living was altogether pleasant. This state of things has been much altered of late; game has disappeared, the rivers are let, and spearing is prohibited under heavy penalties. Such a condition of affairs was altogether undesirable, and would undoubtedly have brought these Indians to starvation and death. I am therefore happy to see that your Department has come to their relief by granting them a good salmon stand in the immediate neighbourhood of Mingan River. This will be of the greatest possible assistance to them during their short stay on the sea-coast. They undoubtedly received this favour with the same gratitude as was expressed on a similar occasion by the Micmac Indians of Restigouche. No tribes of Indians are more deserving of the entire sympathy of your Department than the Montagnais whose mode of living is so difficult and whose disposition is so good.

Romaine River was fished this year with nets and fly by the lessee, Capt. Coventry. He caught twenty barrels in his nets and fifty fish with the rod. In Watsheeshoo Division, the falling off in the yield of salmon was three barrels; thirty instead of thirty-three. In Watsheeshoo River, which was not angled since 1868, Messrs. Carter and Cooper caught twenty six salmon, and are well pleased with, their sport.

As already stated, the largest quantity of salmon was this year caught in the division of Natashquan. Nabissipi and Agwanus yielded a few barrels more than usual, and Natashquan River gave four hundred and fifty barrels, two hundred and fifty of which were preserved in tin. For several years past it had been ascertained that some poachers were in the habit of fishing Natashquan River after the departure of the lessee; but the offence could not be traced to anyone. About the end of August, this season, two men named Rochette and Boulanger ascended the river to seine. They succeeded in securing four barrels, but were caught in the act, their salmon confiscated and themselves heavily fined. The fish could not, unfortunately, be sold; it having spoiled for want of being well prepared. Romaine and Washeecootai Rivers, which are situate a few miles below Natashquan, are two splendid streams, especially the latter which is navigable as high up as the falls and affords the most picturesque sights possible. Of all the salmon streams on the north and south shores, Washeecootai River is undoubtedly the most favorable for sportsmen; the fishing grounds being so easily reached that a gentleman leaving Quebec in a vessel can be landed right alongside the fishing pools. Besides this great advantage, the river has all the appearances of being a fine salmon stream. It is not well stocked at present, it having been ruined by excessive net fishing, seining in pools and spearing. Upon examining the rocks on each side of the pools, I discovered unmistakable signs of poaching. I was on the river by the latter end of August, and during my short stay there I noticed twenty large salmon jumping out of the water. What I say here of Washeecootai River applies also to Olomanosheeshoo or Romaine River, which is equally accessible. Up to a couple of years past these rivers had no private guardians, and were situate so far from the local Fishery Overseer, that he could visit them but once a year, so that when the officer's visit was ended poachers had the field to themselves and could, without any risk of detection, freely practice all sorts of illegal fishing. Now that these streams are under lease, every means are taken to aid their being restocked and make them profitable to the lessees as well as to the Government.

Pacachoo and Bonne Esperance divisions, where fishery laws are always strictly observed, yielded only 293 barrels of salmon against 338 in 1874. The local Fishery Overseers and resident fishermen explain this falling off by the large quantity of ice which remained close in shore until the end of June.

Trout fishing is not considered as a commercial pursuit; the fish being mostly used on the spot for domestic consumption during winter. Twenty barrels were caught on the north shore and forty-seven on the south. The yield in 1874 was seventy-nine barrels for the north and forty four for the south coasts.

The total yield of salmon fishery was 1,204 barrels against 1,471 in 1874.

Owing to successive bad fishing, your Department determined upon lowering the license fees for salmon fishery stations, fixing the rate at forty cents per barrel, instead of at \$1.00, as formerly. The catch having fallen off this year, it follows that the collections will also be found to be less.

Seal Fishery.

Although for three centuries past every possible means have been employed to entrap these animals, whose acuteness renders it a matter of difficulty, and considering that most destructive warfare has been for so long waged against them, they still return every year in large numbers to our shores which were formerly visited by immense herds of walruses but now abandoned by them almost equally with the whale, on account of incessant attacks. Seals understand now that additional precautions must be taken in their migrations; and it is not at all improbable that their disappearance from the coast which they used to near, when ascending the gulf, is not due to a decrease in the species but to the instinct of conservation and to their being frightened away by the shouts of sailors and other noises attendant upon similar expeditions. Indeed, Canadian fishermen who go seal hunting on the ice in the spring, state they can find no difference between the number of seals now and twenty-five years ago. Several species of seals visit the Gulf of St. Lawrence during certain periods of the year; these are, the Greenland seal, harp seals, hooded seals, and another kind which is met on our shores during the whole year round, and which travels in herds. The two first named species are migratory animals, joining together only at breeding time. It is these in which we feel most interested. Seals are very active, fast swimmers and succeed in catching the swiftest fish, such as salmon, upon which they wage deadly warfare, especially within the north shore rivers. These animals usually abandon the northern seas to enter the Gulf of St. Lawrence about the end of November; they near the coast on both sides, and are then caught with nets. They are afterwards found in March and April upon ice-fields where they bring forth their young. Thirteen sedentary stations on the coast of Labrador yielded this season only 182 seals against 251 last year, and 1,609 in 1872. This abundantly proves that such a poor catch cannot even reimburse the actual outlay of setting; some of these seal nets costing as much as four or five thousand dollars. Most of their owners lifted them up last fall with the intention of not setting again. This, I daresay, is a wise determination on their part, as no season was more favourable than the past one for a successful catch, and in spite of it, seals never came near shore. Those fishermen who went out in the Gulf seal-fishing in the spring were successful enough to capture 530 in Bradore and Belles Amours Bays. But these are insignificant results compared with the wonderful fishings which formerly used to be made by the Jones, Robertsons and other settlers. Besides the total number of seals caught with nets and those killed on the ice by schooners, from Esquimaux Point and Natashquan, about 1,200 more were secured between Mingan and Point des Monts.

Seal Hunting on the Ice.

If seal hunters are not yet convinced that the indiscriminate destruction made of these animals since the commencement of the present century begins to tell on their numbers, the outfitters see pretty clearly that the new and improved modes of destruction which are yearly introduced, would soon bring about the same results which have been noticed in the walrus and whale fisheries, and that by indiscriminately destroying the species at every season of the year, the means of destruction were

carried further than the powers of reproduction allowed. During the year 1873, merchants from England, having an interest in the business, entered into correspondence with other parties from the north of Europe, in order to influence the Governments of different countries to enact laws restricting the time of fishing; but no understanding having been arrived at, larger expeditions than ever started last spring for Greenland and Jan Mayen Island, and arrived on the grounds before the females had had time to bring forth their young, or three days after the birth of the latter, when they are incapable of finding their own sustenance. This last expedition caused great apprehension, and decided the Board of Trade of Liverpool to move in the matter. It is to be hoped that the several Governments interested in this question will take timely action, and that the necessary restrictions and legislation will be passed in time to protect the seals against inconsiderate expeditions in 1876. I am under the impression that the time agreed upon is from the 5th of April to the latter end of May, and it is to be hoped that Newfoundland fishermen will strictly comply with this arrangement, since they have, more than any one else, an interest in keeping around their shores a source of wealth which they require to support their Local Government, and which in their wisdom they should strive to keep for their children.

Seals bring forth their young about the middle of March, and a female seldom has more than one. These animals couple in June, and improvident fishermen have not yet found out that, were the required means put in operation, it was an easy thing to destroy a whole species, whose powers of reproduction are somewhat limited, and that this end would sooner be attained the earlier the hunt began in March, when seals are very small, or by extending it to late in June, so as to make coupling impossible. This last fact certainly deserves the attention of outfitters, as intelligent fishermen have noticed that formerly it was an unknown thing to see a female seal without a young one; but hardly ten per cent of the whole now bring forth young ones each year. If the number of vessels engaged in this enormously destructive fishing of the past sixty years is considered, this state of things will be easily understood. The number of European vessels engaged seal-hunting on the easterly shores of Jan Mayen amounted to seventy in 1875, thirty-nine of which were steam vessels. I am not positive as to the precise date at which Newfoundlanders began to engage in these expeditions, but returns made in 1787 show that during that year 900 seals were killed on the ice. From that date to 1875, these figures have increased to 56,000 per annum, with a fluctuation since 1832 of 400,000 to 700,000 every year. As late as 1857, about 400 brigantines and schooners were engaged in this pursuit, but since that time the number of sailing vessels has decreased, to be replaced by larger ones, probably by steam. This change gives better chances for a successful hunt.

It was stated in my annual report of last year, that our own people did not require any restrictive rules to compel them to regulate their fishing. Indeed, their vessels are so much blocked by ice in the spring, that they can hardly leave before the end of April. The long distance they have to proceed before reaching the sealing grounds, and the slow rate of speed of their schooners through the ice, prevent their success from more or less influencing the larger or smaller number of seals in the Gulf; at any rate so long as they employ their present means of fishing.

Twenty seven schooners from Esquimaux Point and Natashquan went out this spring to the sealing grounds, and returned with 6,332 seals. This represents 69 seals more than last year; but it is a very small catch to divide between twenty seven schooners averaging a crew of ten men per vessel; and especially when all the seals killed were small. Two of these schooners were crushed in the ice; the crews suffered great hardships from cold and exhaustion, and would undoubtedly have been lost had it not been for timely assistance from shore. A schooner was fitted out at Seven Islands; but after seven weeks dangerous navigation, returned with only 35 seals.

Oil sold for forty cents this year, and skins fetched one dollar and twenty cents.

OVERSEERS AND FISHERY GUARDIANS.

It being absolutely necessary that fishery laws should be well observed, in order to ensure an increase of fish in our rivers, and the consequent prosperity of fishermen, it is also requisite that your Department should command the services of an efficient staff of guardians, to see that poachers and violators of the law do not encroach upon Government rights. Fishery Overseers and Guardians should in every case be intelligent and reliable men, with sufficient education to enable them to study the habits and nature of fish, the causes of increase or decrease in the yield of fisheries, and to fully appreciate the importance of their duties, for the reason that neglect or indifference to fulfil them may injuriously affect the efficiency of the service.

The present remarks must be taken only in a general sense, as the present staff of Overseers and Guardians in the division under my charge, with one or two exceptions, leave nothing to be desired. I must, however, say that your Department shows every confidence and attention towards the angling lessees of salmon streams in allowing them to choose their own guardians. Most of these lessees, I dare say, have proved worthy of this confidence, but that system may also be conducive to abuse, especially when sport or private interest prevail in antagonism to compliance with the law. These private guardians are chosen to take care of rivers; but they are so well paid that the interest of their employers are predominant with them, and that the neighbours' faults are more readily noticed than those of their masters. This is so much the case that it is often a difficult task to get the truth out of them, even under oath. I had a striking example of this with regard to G. Harbour of Gaspé, an intelligent man, who had been engaged as private guardian at Mingan River for Sir George Gore. In a prosecution which I was compelled to bring against this person for violation of the *Fisheries Act*, I could not succeed in getting Harbour to state whether or not he had seen his employer fish on a Monday, when asked to answer such a plain question on the Wednesday following; that is to say, thirty-six hours after. Let it be remarked, *en passant*, that Mr. Harbour had nothing else to do but to attend upon Sir George Gore; he *thought* he had seen him fish, but would not swear to the fact. This sudden loss of memory was undoubtedly due to the fear of losing a lucrative employment with his master. I, therefore, am of opinion that the choice of these private guardians should, in a great degree, be under the immediate control of your Department, or of some one delegated for the purpose.

The late appointment of a Fishery Overseer for the Magdalen Division, on the south shore of Gaspé, completed the number of officials required to efficiently protect this important section. I would, moreover, respectfully recommend your Department to somewhat increase this officer's salary in view of the large extent of coast he has to guard, and the importance of his division, which is a very difficult one to protect. His present pay of \$60 a season is evidently too small to live upon, and in order to secure a living, he will be compelled to neglect his official duties.

There is another division on the north coast which, in order to be efficiently protected, ought to be divided into two. This division has an extent of coast of from sixty to ninety miles, and comprises Agwans, Kegashea, Natashquan, Washeecootai, Nabissipi and Romaine Rivers. Both divisions of this important fishery district are equally important, but travelling between Natashquan and Kegashea, a distance of thirty-three miles, is most difficult, there being no settlements at all and the coast being unapproachable. It will therefore be easily understood that the Fishery Overseer at Natashquan, who has a good deal to do in guarding this river, can hardly be expected to visit the eastern division comprising Kegashea, Washeecootai and Romaine Rivers more than once during the season. This part of the coast being frequented by a large number of foreign fishing vessels, it follows that these rivers are poached almost every season without it being possible to detect the violators of the law. Such was the case in Kegashea River this year. I would therefore recommend to divide this district into two divisions, the first comprising

Agwanus and Nabissippi rivers; the second, Kegashca, Washeecootai and Romaine Rivers. With such an arrangement, both these divisions would be easily guarded, and the river would soon be restocked. They are such splendid and handy salmon streams that they would in a very short time amply repay the Department for the additional outlay.

I cannot close this article without also recommending Mr. Whitely, the Fishery Overseer of Bonne Espérance Division, to the special consideration of your Department. This officer is one of the oldest and most efficient on the staff, and has always performed his duties to my own and my predecessors' satisfaction. His salary of \$50 *per annum* is evidently not proportionate to the importance of the services he renders to your Department. A small increase would satisfy him, and prevent the loss of the services of an employé whom it would almost be impossible to replace with equal satisfaction in this difficult division.

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men,

LABRADOR,

NAME OF PLACE.	Vessels.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No. of Fishermen.	No. of Shoremen.	Salmon Nets.			Cod Seines.		
	No.	Tons.	Value.	No of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.
			\$			\$		\$				\$				
Godbout.....					2	110	5	95	7	1	1	60	30			
Manicouagan.....					1	60	1	15	4							
Trinity Bay.....					4	282	8	70			12	1240	550			
Islets à Caribou.....					3	44	8	35	8		6	434	180			
Pointe aux Anglais.....	2	32	640	8	7	235	9	45	12							
Petit Mai.....	2	25	400	6	4	95	5	35	8							
Caille Rouge.....	2	22	550	7	3	45	3	15	5							
Rivière Ste. Mar- guerite.....					10	385	8	65	22	8	5	1200	400			
Sept Iles.....					9	360	4	32	18	10						
Moisie.....	1	100	6000	8	21	824	30	267	53	11	32	14040	2620			
Pigou.....					9	360	2	30	18	5						
Sheldrake.....					30	2400	12	120	60	33	3	30	125	5	900	500
Thunder River.....					31	2480	7	70	62	51	1	120	70	2	400	300
Ridge Point.....					20	1600	9	92	40	21						
Magpie Point.....					71	5555	23	221	147	107	1	90	20			
Magpie River.....							2	20	2		5	250	100			
St. John River.....					42	2650	26	228	97	51	3	900	450			
Long Point.....					32	1875	15	131	60	27						
Mingan River.....																
Romaine River.....											2	150	60			
Tipitagan.....							1	12	1		3	200	70			
Esquimaux Point.....	20	715	24	550	53	1120	82	820	117	75						
Nabissipi.....					3	100	3	18	8		5	400	120			
Agwants.....					1	20			2		8	750	225			
Natashquan.....	9	285	9270	71	19	898	23	175	78	20	42	5000	1075			
Kégashka.....					9	170			18							
Mistassini Point.....							1	2	1		1	50	10			
Musguaro.....					1	5	1	8	1		1	50	18			
Washeecoutai.....					9	260	10	60	20	19						
Little Watsheeshoo.....							1	35	1		2	240	24			
Grand Watsheeshoo.....																
Piashter Bay.....					3	520	2	36	3		4	360	36			
Corneille.....					1	30	2	33	1		4	900	90			
Atepetal Bay.....					1	60	2	20	1		2	480	48			
Betchowan.....	3	133	1050	18	9	3465	23	285	21	15						
Chicatica Island.....	1	15	240	3	2	60	2	24	6	3	2	150	24			
Canso Harbour.....					1	28	1	16	3		2	300	55			
Pointe à Giroux.....							1	16	2		4	340	100			
Sandy Island.....							1	13	1		3	200	75			
Dog Island.....					1	48	2	32	2		10	1200	140			
River Island.....							2	17	2		6	420	75			
Lac Salé, St. Au- gustine.....							2	32	2		14	1300	160			
St. Augustine Bay.....					1	20	1	12	2		5	175	45			
St. Augustine River.....							2	18	2		5	400	65			
Big Rigolet, St. Au- gustine.....							1	10	1		5	360	60			
Little Rigolet.....							1	10	1		5	360	60			
Whale's Head, Pa- cacho.....					1	28	1	12	2		6	360	85			

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c.—*Continued.*

DIVISION.

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Seines.			Herring Nets.			Mackerel Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Capelin Seines.			Launce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fisheries.	
No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.
		\$			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$					\$
			2	80	40	1	260	330	4	180	90											
			1	50	25																	
			5	232	95	1	110	80	1	66	30	1	50	32								
			7	195	100										1	50	35					
			1	30	15							2	85	60	2	120	50					
												1	50	30	1	50	40					
1	35	14	3	108	42							2	84	60	4	160	280					
1	120	160	5	232	62	1	200	400	1	40	20	4	246	180	2	130	300					
			3	116	46							4	296	220								
			17	572	202							8	510	300	3	210	290					
												8	414	320								
												8	501	335								
9	1640	2560										6	518	458								
			1	40	10																	
			20	594	175							7	310	130								
			12	240	100																	
			5	100	50													3	360	18		
			2	127	26													2	240	12		
																		2	360	15		
																		3	600	20		
			9	590	109							3	185	56	1	40	35	3	600	20		
			1	40	12							1	60	30			3	400	200			
1	60	20	1	40	15							1	60	20				2	300	200		

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men, LABRADOR

NAME OF PLACE.	Vessels.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No. of Fishermen.	No. of Shoremen.	Salmon Nets.			Cod Seines.		
	No.	Tons.	Value.	No. of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.
			\$			\$		\$				\$			\$	
Point Rouge, Pa-							1	6	1		2	120	30			
cachoo.....							1	7	1		4	200	50			
Kikapoe Island.....							1	8	1		3	180	40			
Fonderie Fecteau.....							1	8	1		3	120	35			
Kikapoe River.....					1	30	1	15	2		2	250	35			
Lac Salé, Tabatière					2	35			2							
Tabatière.....					2	60	1	15	4		1	70	20			
Spar Point.....					2	40			2		3	155	50			
Baie Rouge, Taba-					2	125	2	30	3		5	310	70			
tière.....					1	25	2	60	3		3	180	40			
Meccatina Island.....	1	36	600	4	16	350	3	70	21	2	4	285	100			
Big Meccatina.....							1	15	1		6	275	100			
Baie des Moutons...					10	420	4	90	20		6	540	160	1	160	120
Meccatina River.....					2	50	1	20	4							
Whale's Head, Mec-					3	90	1	15	7		1	65	25			
catina.....							3	30	3		4	200	70			
Sandy Cove.....					1	30			1							
Little Meccatina.....					8	170	1	15	9		3	160	55			
Nitagamion River.....							1	15	1		2	100	40			
Isle du Noir.....					1	30	1	20	1		2	100	45			
Harrington Harbor.....							1	15	1		2	80	30			
Pointe à Mourier.....					1	10	1	10	2	2	2	100	50			
Cape Whittle.....					1	20	1	20	2		2	200	100			
Coacochoo.....					3	100	2	40	6	4	2	200	100			
Nabittipi River.....					1	20	1	20	2	2	2	200	100			
Bull Cove.....					1	20	1	15	2	2	2	200	100			
Bay of Rocks.....					1	20	3	50	2		2	200	100			
Lydias' Cove.....					4	150	4	60	8	6	1	100	50			
Pêche à Lizotte.....					1	40	2	20	4	1	1	100	50			
Dog Island.....					11	720	10	460	22	14	1	100	50	1	200	400
Old Fort Island.....					3	300	3	100	6	4	2	200	100	1	200	300
Burnt Island.....					1	20	3	30	2	1	4	400	200			
Bonne Espérance.....					4	400	4	200	8	4	4	400	200	1	200	400
Pigon Island.....	1	100	7000	8	24	1840	18	670	48	40	4	400	200	4	800	1500
St. Paul's River.....					1	20	1	20	2	2	2	200	100			
Stick Point.....					1	30	1	20	2	1	2	200	100			
Salmon Bay.....					1	40	1	20	2	2						
Little Fisheries					2	40	2	40	6	4						
Five Leagues.....					1	40	2	30	4	4						
Middle Bay.....					5	280	8	180	11	8	1	100	50	1	200	300
Belles Amours.....																
Bras d'Or.....																
Anse des Dunes.....																
Long Point.....																
Total	42	1463	50300	123	533	31777	441	5781	1157	562	301	39299	9960	16	3060	3820

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.

DIVISION.

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Seines.			Herring Nets.			Mackerel Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Capelin Seines.			Launce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fish'ries	
No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.
		\$			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$		\$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	350	180	...	...
1	175	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	670	300	...	...
1	185	165	1	40	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	65	50	...	...	...	2	225	150	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1450	800	...	...
1	65	25	1	40	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	65	30	...	...	...	3	260	130	...	...
1	465	140	2	80	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	900	450	...	...
2	330	230	10	455	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	120	70	...	...	...	3	300	200	...	...
2	230	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	65	30	...	...	...	7	1500	870	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	60	25	...	...	...	2	221	160	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	20	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	120	1	100	40	1	100	20	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	20	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	20	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	500	400	...	...
1	200	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	50	1	100	40	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	50	25	1	100	40	2	200	40	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	200	200	1	100	45	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	100	1	100	40	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	20	...	...
1	200	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	100	1	100	40	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	100	1	100	40	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	200	100	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	200	100	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	400	200	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	300	150	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	100	1	100	40	4	1100	500	...	...
22	3706	3854	109	4001	1303	3	570	810	6	286	140	71	4494	3131	22	1560	1355	77	12136	5315	...	...

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.—*Continued.*

DIVISION.

Smoked Herrings, boxes.	Mackerel, barrels.	Trout, barrels.	Sardines, barrels.	Eels, barrels.	Tunny, barrels.	Cod Tongues and Sounds.	No. of Seals.	No. of Seal-skins.	No. of Whales.	No. of Porpoises.	Oils.				Fish used as Manure.			
											Seal Oil, gallons.	Whale Oil, gallons.	Porpoise Oil, gals.	Cod Oil, gallons.	Herring, barrels.	Capelin, barrels.	Smelt, barrels.	Cod Roes, barrels.
	30	6																
		1					96	96			570							
		12												13				
		4												119				
														33				
		2												90				
														14				
														250				
														200				
														450		40		
														600				
														3590				
														3032				
														1350				
														6952				
														3077				
														2275				
							5002	5002			21878			1065				
														255				
							1330	1330			6820			900	870			
										3			60	75				
														600		630		
							23	23			23							
		1					16	16			32							
		1					8	8			16							
							430	430			910			107				
							39	39			78							
		5																
		6																
		5																
		3																
		4																
		2																
		4																
		3																
		2																
		1																
							3	3			20							
		1																
							3	3			27							

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men, LABRADOR

Name of Station.	Salmon, barrels, (cured).	Salmon, (fresh in ice), lbs.	Salmon, (in cans), lbs.	Salmon, (smoked), boxes.	Summer Fishing. Cod, Quintals.	Fall Fishing. Cod, Quintals.	Haddock, Quintals.	Ling, Quintals.	Halibut, barrels.	Herring, barrels.
Fonderie Fecteau.....	5									5
Salt Lake, Tabatière.....	3				5					30
Spar Point.....	1				10					40
Baie Rouge, Tabatière.....	2				35					50
Meccatina Island.....	4				21					31
Big Meccatina.....	2				10					60
Baie des Moutous.....	2				309					1482
Meccatina River.....	18									10
Whale's Head, Meccatina.....	14				170					282
Sandy Cove..... Meccatina.....					40					35
Tabatière.....					25					30
Little Meccatina.....	2				57					55
Harrington Harbour.....	2				128					157
Matagamion and River.....	26									
Pointe du Mourier.....	1									15
Cape Whittle.....	3									
Coacoachoo.....	1									
Nabittipi.....	4				4					
Bull Cove.....	5				8					
Bay of Rocks.....	8				50					
Lydias Cove.....	5									
Pêche à Lizotte.....	5									
Dog Island.....	1									
Old Fort Island.....					200					
Burnt Island.....	1				50					
Bonne Espérance.....	2				1200					
Pigon Island.....	4				400					
St. Paul's River.....	30									
Stick Point.....	10				300					
Salmon Bay.....	20				2320					
Little Fisheries.....	10				20					
Five Leagues.....	8				30					
Middle Bay.....	4				40					
Belles Amours.....					30					
Bras d'Or.....					70					
Anse des Dunes.....					40					
Long Point.....	1				300					
Total.....	907	112640	60000		23088	4172			23	9105

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.—*Continued.*

DIVISION.

Smoked Herring, boxes.	Mackerel, barrels.	Trout, barrels.	Sardines, barrels.	Eels, barrels.	Tunny, barrels.	Cod Tongues and Sounds, barrels.	No. of Seals.	No. of Seal-skins.	No. of Whales.	No. of Porpoises.	Oils.				Fish used as Manure.			
											Seal Oil, gallons.	Whale Oil, gallons.	Porpoise Oil, gals.	Cod Oil, gallons.	Herring, barrels.	Capelin, barrels.	Smelt, barrels.	Cod Roes, barrels.
		1					9	9			63							
							63	63			421							
							3	3			21			25				
							46	46			322							
							4	7			49			227				
							39	39			315			133				
														32				
														22				
														26				
														125				
							10	10			40			4				
									1			1500		50				
							60	60			400							
							20	20			300			200				
														50				
														1090				
														300				
														250				
														1950				
							30	30			200			20				
							60	60			400			25				
														30				
														30				
							100	100			600			60				
							40	40			240			40				
							270	270			1480			250				
30	62						7707	7707	1	3	35225	1500	60	29364	870	670		

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE OF THE DIFFERENT FISHERIES OF THE LABRADOR DIVISION

		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Summer Cod fishing	23,088 quintals @	5.00	115,440 00
Autumn do	4,172 do	5.00	20,860 00
Mackerel fishing	30 barrels	10.00	300 00
Herring do	9,105 do	5.00	45,525 00
Halibut do	23 do	6.00	138 00
Salmon (pickled)	907 do	16.00	14,512 00
do (fresh in ice)	112,640 lbs.	0.05	5,632 00
do (in cans)	60,000 lbs.	0.25	15,000 00
Trout fishing	62 barrels	8.00	496 00
Seals	7,707 each	6.00	46,242 00
Cod Oil	29,364 gallons	0.50	14,682 00
Seal Oil	33,225 do	0.50	17,612 50
Whale Oil	1,500 do	0.80	1,200 00
Total value of the products of the Fisheries in 1875			297,639 50
do do do 1874			357,750 35
Decrease			60,110 85

ANTICOSTI ISLAND.

We were unable this season to visit Anticosti before the 5th of August, and our first call was at English Bay, where we were informed by the settlers that the winter had been very severe, and that it was with the greatest difficulty some of the families on the Island managed to get through; several of them, as in previous years, having to draw on the Government Provision Depots. Furs were scarce, and settlers who succeeded in securing a few skins had to undergo great hardships to procure them. My predictions regarding the Anticosti Company, I am sorry to say, proved but too true. The attractive programme laid before the public was in no sense acted upon. The Association broke up, and abandoned all its plans of settlement, leaving the immigrants to depend upon their own energy for a living. It was well that Mr. Charles Le Boutillier, of Gaspé Basin, came forward and consented to supply them with the necessities of life, taking their fish in exchange at the highest market prices. This liberal-minded gentleman located several agents on the Island, and will, I hope, be the means of having the place settled. I also understand that the business of the old Company has been taken up by a new Association in Montreal, with the intention of carrying out some scheme by which Anticosti will be made to yield a revenue. I hope also that, taking advantage of previous experience, they will exert their means and energy in the right direction. The settlers from Newfoundland are a hard-working and industrious population. At Fox Bay a large portion of land has been cleared, and vegetable gardens planted; some of the people raised very fine produce. At English Bay the settlers are also doing very well. They will have, of course, to contend with very great natural disadvantages, but they will, I feel satisfied, improve their position every successive year.

The provisions sent in 1873 by your Department were of great assistance, and in some places I noticed potatoe crops raised from the seed sent, which looked very fine indeed. I also saw turnips weighing from two and a half to three pounds, and other garden vegetables in proportion. Unfortunately, fishing, as a whole, was very poor this season. Trading schooners also kept aloof from the locality, fearing, I suppose, the inability to transact any remunerative business. This circumstance somewhat added to the discomfort of the people, who relied upon them for provisions, &c.; but Mr. Charles Le Boutillier readily aided them, and supplied their wants. Several of the settlers also crossed over to Gaspé and traded for themselves. I am really at a loss to explain the cause of the falling off in the fishery around these Islands; but my impression is that the lateness of the season, coupled with the continual bad weather, kept the fish away from these usually fine fishing grounds.

Salmon Fishery.

Salmon fishing was poor this season, by reason, undoubtedly, of the ice remaining so long around the shores of the Island. Another cause of failure may also be attributed to the heavy rains which prevailed during the winter of 1873, as well as to the spring freshets, which caused considerable damage to the spawning beds, by washing the eggs out to sea. A further reason may be found in the fact that salmon, not finding sufficient water in the streams this year, went elsewhere to spawn. Great damage was also done in some of the rivers by stormy weather, the sea having in some instances formed bars at the mouths of streams, which balked the fish on their first seeking fresh water. The Local Guardians inform me that in several places it is even difficult to get a flat over the bars. These obstructions must naturally increase every year by additional deposits from the rivers.

There were 81 barrels of salmon caught this year, against 119 in 1874; this shows a decrease of 20 barrels in 1875.

Cod Fishery.

Cod fishing this season was poor. Fish were abundant enough on the banks around the Island, but bait was scarce, owing to constant bad weather. Herring

kept away from shore for several days at a time, being driven out of bays by rough weather, and fishing was consequently impracticable. The prevalence of foggy and damp weather also had a great deal to do with the small quantity of fish cured. Another reason which may account for the small yield of cod noticed in this year's statistics, is the difficulty experienced by local guardians in collecting correct and complete information. There are no roads on Anticosti; communications from one post to another have to be made by water. The guardians are compelled to travel through their divisions in a boat, hurrying through from one place to another, so as to take advantage of tide and fine weather; sometimes only visiting a fishing-place once in a season, often depending on hearsay for statistics, when the men are not ashore. Besides these difficulties, the inconvenience of not having a mail leaving late in the fall, compels the guardians to send their reports before the fishing season is practically over. The yield of cod this year was 4,891 quintals, against 5,158 in 1874—a falling off of 267 quintals.

Herring, Mackerel and Halibut Fisheries.

Herring, which is the bait mostly used for codfishing around Anticosti was very scarce. A good haul was, however, made by settlers at Fox Bay; and about 200 barrels salted down in a very short time. More could have been stored had there been sufficient salt on hand. This was quite a godsend to these new settlers, it enabled them to make up somewhat for the scarcity of fish. In other parts of the Island the average catch was from two to four barrels per family. The total catch for this year was 1,089 barrels, against 1,507 in 1874, showing a decrease of 418 barrels.

Halibut is not generally fished for by the inhabitants around Anticosti; the fish caught while fishing for cod only being salted. This year there were 88 barrels of it caught against 156 last year. American schooners which used to patronise the halibut grounds around Anticosti appear to have deserted the place altogether. The residents informed me that they had not seen a single United States craft this year.

From all that I could learn, mackerel did not strike the shores at all.

Seal Fishery.

A larger number of seals were killed this year than in 1873 and 1874. Several settlers from Newfoundland and Shippegan, or Acadians, as they are styled, made good hunts. A resident of English Bay, who depends altogether on seal hunting for a means of livelihood, also succeeded very well. The total number of seals killed this year amounted to 215, yielding 460 gallons of oil. In 1874 only 172 were killed, giving 359 gallons of oil.

In accordance with directions from your Department, I engaged last season two fishery guardians for Anticosti, Mr. Alfred Malouin for the western portion of the Island, and Mr. Ebenezer Marshall for the eastern division. Both these officers performed their duties satisfactorily, notwithstanding the many difficulties they had to encounter.

Anticosti will, I hope, before long, become a prosperous place; there really is no reason why it should not progress, should the enterprising settlers who are now located on it receive assistance from outside. They are a hardy and industrious set, determined upon roughing it, and anxious to build for themselves houses on an Island which, for many years has been considered uninhabitable. There is plenty of good land waiting to be cleared; the crops will certainly repay a hundred fold the first outlay, and the settlers are generally pretty well convinced that they must farm as well as fish, although the former must always be their main occupation.

Lighthouses.

I shall not revert here to the necessity of placing a lighthouse on the northern side of the Island. Should your Department decide upon doing so, I would recommend that it be placed on Cape Observation, for reasons already stated in a special report made on the location of lights along the north shore. There is a large coasting trade on the Labrador coast, and nothing at all to guide the vessels during dark nights on their run through what I may call the Anticosti Straits.

Provision Depots.

I am compelled once more to respectfully call the attention of your Department to the fact that the Government provision depots are not sufficiently protected; and that I deem it necessary to increase the staff already employed; but I really believe that some additional power or instructions should be given the officer in charge of the Fisheries protection vessel, whereby he could prosecute and punish on the spot any person having unlawfully taken flour or other provisions from the depots.

Wrecks.

Several wrecks occurred at Anticosti this season. On the 13th May, the ship "Giant's Causeway," 1,214 tons, was wrecked on Cormorant Point. On the 9th of September, the ship "Chillianwallah," 1,216 tons, was wrecked 25 miles east of South West Point. Both these vessels proved a total loss. On the 1st October, the steamer "Standard," 1,014 tons, with a cargo of iron rails, from an error of calculation and through a dense fog, grounded in Fox Bay; but after discharging part of the cargo, worked off again into deep water and proceeded to Quebec. These, together with some small craft, amongst which was the postal packet, attached to the North Shore Division and Anticosti, were wrecked during this summer; but I am happy to say no lives were lost.

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kind of Vessels, Number of Men, ISLAND OF

NAME OF PLACE.	Vessels.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No. of Fishermen.	No. of Shoremen.	SALMON NETS.			COD SKINES.		
	No.	Tons.	Value.	No. of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.
English Bay.....	1	15	\$ 200	3	31	\$ 1,240	36	\$ 360	62	21		\$				
Strawberry Cove.....							8	89	8							
Little River.....					1	40	1	8	1							
Betcie River.....					1	40	2	20	2		1	16	4			
Otter River.....											1	16	6			
Jupiter River.....					1	40	1	8	2		2	40	20			
S. W. Point.....					13	416	13	104	26	13						
East Bay.....					5	160	5	40	10							
Salmon River.....					3	120	3	30	4	1	3	100	30			
Cape Observation.....					5	300	5	25	10	3						
Oro Point.....					4	240	4	20	8	3						
Potatoes River.....					2	120	2	10	4	2						
Capelin Bay.....					8	480	8	40	16	5						
McDonald's Cove.....					14	875	14	75	2	13						
Shallop Creek.....											3	150	30			
Indian Cove.....					2	105	2	10	4	2						
Fox Bay.....	1	20	400	5	18	915	17	154	38	2	4	400	40			
Wreck River.....					3	180	3	15	6	2						
Mozerolle River.....					5	430	7	43	14	6						
Belle River.....											2	100	20			
Seal River.....					2	80	2	20	2	1	2	100	25			
Total ..	2	35	600	8	118	5,781	133	1,052	245	74	18	922	175			

kind of Nets used, kind of Fish, and Fish Oils, &c., &c.

ANTICOSTI.

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Seines.			Herring Nets.			Mackerel Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Capelin Seines.			Launce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fisheries.	
No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.
...	...	\$	44	1,760	704	...	...	\$	...	...	\$	6	360	240	...	...	\$	...	...	\$	...	...
...	6	240	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	32	12	...	...
...
...	40	1,600	700	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	120	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	6	240	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	6	240	72	...	...	3	150	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	150	30	...	...	...
...	5	100	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	4	80	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	1	5	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	10	200	125	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	14	330	169	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...	2	55	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	29	1,420	457	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	2	50	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	8	180	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	200	100	2	75	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	200	20	...	...
1	200	100	179	6,575	2,678	...	...	...	3	150	30	8	480	320	...	...	...	8	382	62	...	...

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men,
ISLAND OF

Name of Station	Salmon, barrels (cured).	Salmon (fresh, in ice), lbs.	Salmon (in cans), lbs.	Salmon (smoked).	Summer Fishing.	Fall Fishing.	Haddock, quintals.	Ling, quintals.	Halibut, barrels.	Herring, barrels.
					Cod, quintals.	Cod, quintals.				
English Bay					1,100	187			59	329
Strawberry Cove					130				10	25
Little River										
Betcie River.....	2									
Otter River.....	2									
Jupiter River.....	14									
South West Point.....					295				3	119
East Bay					35					4
Salmon River.....	17				40	30			3	25
Cape Observation.....					200	50			2	25
Oro Point					100	20				15
Potatoes River					60	10				15
Capelin Bay					325	80			4	30
McDonald's Cove					600	108			2	90
Shallop Creek.....	27									
Indian Cove.....					71	10				13
Fox Bay					656	392				304
Fox River	1				77	10			5	40
Mozerolle River.....					220	85				55
Belle River	8									
Seal River.....	10									
Total ..	81				3,909	982			88	1,089

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE OF THE DIFFERENT FISHERIES OF THE ISLAND OF ANTICOSTI.

		\$ cts	\$ cts
Summer Cod Fishing.....	3,909 quintals at...	5 00	19,545 00
Autumn do	982 do ...	5 00	4,610 00
Herring Fishing.....	1,089 barrels	5 00	5,445 00
Halibut do	88 do	6 00	528 00
Salmon (pickled).....	81 do	16 00	1,296 00
Trout	14 do	8 00	112 00
Seals (number of)	215 each.....	6 00	1,290 00
Cod Tongues and Sounds	7 barrels	7 00	49 00
Cod Oil.....	2,940 galls	0 50	1,470 00
Seal do	460 do	0 50	230 000
Total value of the products of the Fisheries in 1875			\$34,575 00
do do do in 1874			38,874 00
Decrease			\$4,299 00

MAGDALEN ISLANDS.

This group of Islands, situate as they are at the entrance of the Gulf, surrounded everywhere by waters, teeming with all kinds of valuable species of marine animals, and enjoying one of the healthiest climates and richest soils of the whole Dominion, affords extraordinary advantages to fishermen resorting to its shores.

The Magdalen Islands are placed in the most favourable latitude for carrying on fishing pursuits—the surrounding waters being equal in temperature, which undoubtedly has great influence on breeding fish, as it prevents them from abandoning entirely those shores at any period of the season. Should one kind of fish happen to fail in any one year, it is sure to be abundant the following season: so that industrious and active fishermen can always rely on comparative abundance.

Seal Fishery.

Thirteen vessels belonging to Magdalen Islands went seal hunting this spring, and returned with only 1,849 pelts. This is very little, and far below an average catch. Several causes are attributed to the yearly falling off of this once-flourishing industry. The parent seals finding a most unmerciful war waged on them, even at the time when they bring forth their young, gradually seek more northerly regions, seldom visited by man; and at no very distant period, unless some protection be afforded them, this species will be as scarce in the waters of the Gulf as other species of the family. Another cause of the decline is ascribed to the frightening away of seals by steamers sent from St. John, Newfoundland. This animal being gifted with a keen sight and active hearing, sees the smoke and hears the noise of a steamer crushing through the ice at very remote distances, and becomes yearly more and more shy. As an instance, I will state that last summer we came to a recess on the coast, and noticed several seals basking in the sun. So long as they did not see us, they played about and came quite close to the shore, some even climbing upon the rocks. One of the crew, however, having lighted a fire to keep the flies away, the seals saw the smoke and vanished for the remainder of the day. The least noise or disturbance is sufficient to frighten these animals.

If the schooners which went out seal-hunting were unsuccessful, fishermen who remained ashore were more fortunate; several herds being driven ashore on floating ice this spring, of which 14,598 were killed, the inhabitants being able to drive right out on the ice and haul their catch to the mainland. About 200 seals were also caught with nets.

This success helped the Magdalen Islanders to procure salt, &c., for cod and mackerel fishing; and I am sure that, had it not been for this, merchants would have felt a certain degree of hesitation in advancing provisions. The yield of last year, as well as that of 1873, was far from being remunerative. I am happy to state that no accidents befel the sealing fleet this spring; last year we had to record the loss of one vessel. Such a misfortune is often followed with serious consequences, as it prevents the master and crew from proceeding to Labrador for cod-fishing, or to Quebec in the fall for their provisions. This year's statistics show a total catch of 16,447 seals and 63,024 gallons of oil; the yield in 1873 was 5,590 seals, and 19,685 gallons of oil; in 1874, 4,555 seals and 21,915 gallons of oil. This shows an increase for 1875, over last year, of 12,892 seals and 41,109 gallons of oil.

The following is the list of vessels which went sealing, with their respective cargoes:—

"Archangel"	10 seals.
"Cora May"	19 "
"Marie"	35 "
"Aretic"	30 "
"Jenny Lind"	140 "
"Annie"	180 "
"Delany"	110 "

"Painchaud"	45	"
"Stella Maris"	45	"
"President"	380	"
"Flash"	380	"
"Lion"	75	"
"Esperance"	400	"
Total.....	1849	seals.

Mackerel Fishery.

The spring mackerel fishery was far from being a success. For some reason or other the fish kept away from the shore, and only a small catch was made. The catch of 1874 cannot be fairly compared with that of 1875, as you will perceive, on reverting to my annual report for that year, that, owing to a strong gale which took place just at the height of the fishing season, several vessels were considerably damaged, and were thus prevented from fishing any longer. The storm, too, may have driven the mackerel out of the bays at an earlier date than usual. The same reason cannot be adduced for the failure of this spring's mackerel fishery; for although the weather kept rough, the principal cause of the scarcity of fish was the late opening of the season. Finding the approaches to their favorite grounds blocked with ice, the fish went elsewhere to spawn.

Statistics show the spring catch to have been 1,233 barrels. This, of course, is taken from vessels entered and cleared at the Custom House. The quantity taken for private consumption may increase these figures by fifty barrels.

The following is a list of the vessels, with cargoes:—

	No. of Brls.
"Lavinia Elizabeth"	140
"Greyhound"	68
"Mary Ellen"	60
"Trial"	130
"P. Martin"	80
"J. Thomas"	170
"Lilian"	120
"Defiance"	100
"Annie Bell"	160
"Arcola"	65
"Two Brothers"	60
"Jane Otis"	80
Total.....	1233

Fail fishing was good, when compared with other localities, but only for small boats fishing near land or in the Bay.

American schooners, and those from the Maritime Provinces fared badly, the fish keeping too close inshore. The returns show a catch of 5,215 barrels, but this I believe to be under rated, as it is very difficult, not to say impossible, to get correct figures from the fishing schooners, they generally keeping outside and having no communication with the mainland except when in want of water or fuel. Constant rough weather prevented in a great measure vessels from making anything of a catch. I have known them to be compelled to shift their anchoring grounds as often as three or four times in a day on account of changes in the wind. It being impossible to carry on mackerel fishing from schooners except under favourable circumstances, the prevalence of rough weather compelled their owners to change anchorage very often and occasioned much delay.

The total catch in 1875 shows 6,448 barrels, against 6,560 in 1874. This is a decrease of 112 barrels this season.

Cod Fishery.

Cod fishing which promised in the spring to give abundant results, was also injured by unfavourable weather.

Up to August, the fishermen of the Islands succeeded better than in any previous year, but a prevalence of wet and foggy weather after that time prevented them from thoroughly drying their catch, or even what they previously had in store, and large quantities were spoiled and had to be thrown away. This is certainly to be regretted, it being on this fishing that these people depend in a great measure to pay old accounts and procure winter supplies and spring advances. Vessels belonging to the Islands which went to the north shore in the expectation of securing large cargoes did not fare well, the fish having emigrated elsewhere.

Fishing in boats around the Islands was good, when we take into account, as already stated, the very unfavourable weather which prevailed after the month of August. The boats averaged about 38 to 40 quintals each.

The total catch for 1875 was 13,035 quintals, against 13,840 last year, or a decrease of 805 quintals. But, as above stated, large quantities of fish were spoiled and had to be thrown away, being thus lost to the trade.

Wrecks and Disasters.

These Islands were during the past season the scene of some most distressing wrecks. On the 15th of August the "Cherokee" from London to Montreal, struck on East Cape; fortunately no lives were lost, but only part of the cargo was saved. This vessel was valued at about \$20,000. On the 16th of September, the steamer "Tigress," coal laden, sprung a leak when some 40 miles from the Islands, and had to run ashore on Entry Island to save the passengers and crew. She was eventually sold for the benefit of underwriters. On the 28th of September the brigantine "Pierre Nolasque, coal laden from Glass Bay to Quebec, went ashore on Grindstone Island and broke up; the whole crew being lost. On the 8th of November, a large lumber laden ship, the "Calcutta," from Quebec, on her outward trip was also wrecked on Grindstone Island. She proved to be a total wreck; twenty-three persons out of twenty-seven losing their lives. Again, later in the season we had to deplore the loss of many schooners belonging to the Islands on their fall trip homeward, provision laden. This succession of misfortunes would have placed the Magdalen Islanders in a most critical position, in fact several would have been brought to the verge of starvation had not the Provincial Government of Quebec voted a sum of money to purchase provisions for the people, and the fact of the Dominion Government kindly placing the steamer "Newfield" at their disposal to carry them from Halifax to the Islands.

It would be a good plan to have two or three small houses built at the Magdalen Islands; say along the northern side; with indication posts at certain distances pointing out the way to vessels in distress. These houses might contain a stove and a small supply of fuel, etc., so as to enable shipwrecked people to protect themselves from the fury of the weather when cast ashore in the fall, and enable them to recover their strength before proceeding to the inhabited portion of the Islands.

Had it not been for this very unfortunate closing of the fishing season the people would have experienced the effects of a prosperous fishing and the produce of a plentiful harvest.

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men, MAGDALEN

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	Vessels.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No of Fishermen.	No. of Shoremen.	Salmon Nets.			Cod Seines.		
		No.	Tons.	Value.	No. of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.
	<i>Amherst Island.</i>			\$			\$		\$					\$			\$
1	Pleasant Bay and Amherst Harbor.....	5	211	6,400	4	36	1,080	4	24	98	56						
2	Basin.....					23	690	10	60	51	50						
3	Mill Cove.....					8	240	4	24	17	12						
4	Cabin Cove.....					35	1,050	15	90	78	60						
5	West Cape.....					9	270	2	12	19	16						
	<i>Grindstone Island.</i>																
6	Etang du Nord.....					51	2,040	40	240	136	130						
7	Cape Mull.....					9	270	4	24	27	16						
8	Hospital.....					21	630	6	36	63	24						
	<i>Allright Island.</i>																
9	House Harbor.....	14	586	22,400		51	1,530	52	312	187	142						
10	Pointe Basse.....					6	180	2	12	21							
11	L'Anse à Elie.....					15	450	6	36	45	10						
12	South Beach.....					35	1,050	10	60	105	26						
	<i>Coffin Island.</i>																
13	Grand Entry Harbor.....					12	360	2	12	24	18						
14	Bryon Island.....					8	240	4	24	16	12						
15	Entry Island.....					8	240	4	24	13	8						
	Total.....	19	797	28,800	4	372	10,320	165	990	902	580						

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.—*Continued.*

ISLANDS.

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Seines.			Herring Nets.			Mack'rl Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Capelin Seines.			Lauunce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fish'ies.	
No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.
		\$			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$		\$
1	300	400	5	200	50	...	...	...	142	7,100	1,500	2	120	240	...	...	...	2	120	60	...	...
...	35	1,400	350	...	...	...	43	2,150	516	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	450	220	...	...
...	13	560	130	...	...	...	90	4,000	1,080	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	64	2,560	640	...	...	...	75	3,750	900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	12	480	120	...	...	...	2	90	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	200	300	3	150	30	...	...	...	19	950	228	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	2,750	1,200	...	...
...
...	2	80	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	300	600	...	...	...	30	1,980	990	...	...
...	1	40	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	1,100	550	...	...
...	4	200	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	300	150	...	...
...	15	600	150	...	...	...	6	300	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...	11	500	100	...	...	...	1	50	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	4,000	2,000	...	...
...	6	300	60	...	...	...	3	150	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	1,000	500	...	...
...	40	200	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	500	700	171	7,076	1,698	...	...	...	421	19,240	4,864	5	420	840	...	...	...	180	11,700	5,670	...	...

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men,
MAGDALEN

No.	NAME OF STATION.	Salmon, barrels, (cured).	Salmon, (fresh, in ice), lbs.	Salmon, (in cans), lbs.	Salmon, (smoked), boxes.	Cod quintals.		Haddock, quintals.	Ling, quintals.	Halibut, barrels.	Herring, barrels.
						Summer Fishing.	Fall Fishing.				
	<i>Amherst Island.</i>										
1	Plaisant Bay and Amherst Harbour					464	50				26685
2	Basin.....					1336	190				191
3	Mill Cove.....					595	61				67
4	Cabin Cove.....					2555	334				264
5	West Cape					422	97				64
	<i>Grindstone Island.</i>										
6	Etang du Nord.....					3570	510			53	677
7	Cape Mull.....										77
8	Hospital					200					176
	<i>Allright Island.</i>										
9	House Harbour.....					1686	14				867
10	Pointe Basse.....										60
11	L'Anse à Elie					46					152
12	South Beach.....					380					398
	<i>Coffin Island.</i>										
13	Grand Entry Harbour.....					233					141
14	<i>Bryon Island.</i>					148	28				62
15	<i>Entry Island.</i>					116					70
	Total.....					11751	1284			53	29951

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.—*Continued.*

ISLANDS.

Smoked Herring, boxes.	Mackerel, barrels.	Trout, barrels.	Sardines, barrels.	Eels, barrels.	Tunny, Barrels.	Cod Tongues and Sounds, barrels.	No. of Seals.	No. of Seal-skins.	No. of Whales.	No. of Porpoises.	Oils.				Fish used as Manure.			
											Seal Oil, gallons.	Whale Oil, gallons.	Porpoise Oil, galls.	Cod Oil, gallons.	Herring, barrels.	Capelin, barrels.	Smelt, barrels.	Cod Roes, barrels.
.....	1965	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1270	1270	.....	.....	5100	.....	.....	280	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	180	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	800	800	.....	.....	2400	.....	.....	864	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	161	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	450	450	.....	.....	1800	.....	.....	345	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	158	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	884	884	.....	.....	2654	.....	.....	1598	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	218	218	.....	.....	872	.....	.....	273	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....
.....	585	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2185	2185	.....	.....	6558	.....	.....	3189	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	145	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2000	2000	.....	.....	8000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	456	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1500	1500	1	.....	6000	975	.....	148	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....
.....	121	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1885	1885	.....	.....	7540	.....	.....	1255	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	179	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1000	1000	.....	.....	4000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	368	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	800	800	.....	.....	3200	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	1373	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2400	2400	.....	.....	9600	.....	.....	317	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....
.....	298	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	760	760	.....	.....	3040	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	191	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	525	525	.....	.....	2100	.....	.....	58	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	227	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	40	.....	.....	160	.....	.....	90	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....
.....	6448	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16447	16447	1	.....	63024	975	.....	8527	.....	.....	.....	.....

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE OF THE DIFFERENT FISHERIES OF THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS DIVISION.

		\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Summer Cod fishery.....	11,751 quintals	at	.....5 00		58,755 00
Autumn do	1,284 do		.....5 00		6,420 00
Herring fishery.....	29,951 barrels		.....5 00		149,755 00
Mackerel	6,448 do		.....10 00		64,480 00
Seals	16,447 each		.....6 00		98,682 00
Cod Oil.....	8,527 gallons		.....0 50		4,263 50
Seal Oil.....	63,024 do		.....0 50		31,512 00
Whale Oil.....	975 do		.....0 80		780 00
<hr/>					
Total value of the product of the fisheries for 1875					414,747 50
do do 1874.....					237,560 00
Increase.....					177,187 50

RETURN of the Number and Tonnage of Vessels with Men and Boats engaged in the Seal Fishery at the Magdalen Islands, during the season of 1875.

Name of Vessel.	Master.	Tons.	Men.	Boats.	No. of Seals taken.
Annie.....	Terrieau.....	41	10	4	180
Stella Maris.....	Arsineau.....	47	12	4	45
Lion.....	Richard.....	41	12	4	61
President.....	Turbide.....	30	10	4	380
Delaney.....	Vignault.....	43	12	4	110
Flash.....	Cormier.....	47	10	4	380
Jenny Lind.....	Cheverie.....	39	10	4	140
Archangel.....	Jomphe.....	40	10	4	40
A. Painchard.....	Arsineau.....	36	12	4	45
Arctic.....	Richard.....	52	12	4	30
Mary.....	Arsineau.....	34	10	4	35
Cora May.....	Boudreau.....	42	10	4	15
Esperance.....	Lapierre.....	51	10	4	270
Total 13	Vessels..	543	140	52	1,731

RETURN of the Number and Tonnage of Vessels, with the Boats, Men and Seines, engaged in the Spring Herring Fishery at the Magdalen Islands, during the season of 1875.

Name of Vessel.	Master.	From Whence.	Tons.	Men.	Boats.	Seines.	Barrels of Fish taken
S. S. Commerce.....	Hallett	United States.....	278	19	3	.....	2,500
D. Webster.....	Smith	do	60	6	2	.....	800
Josephine.....	Shanley.....	do	55	6	2	1	600
A. B. Higgins.....	Higgins	do	42	4	2	.....	600
Frances Ellen.....	Cousins	do	98	5	2	.....	1,300
Nellie H	Mallock	do	78	7	3	1	1,100
Charles A. Rope.....	Thompson	do	64	8	3	.....	1,200
Ida Ella.....	Williams	do	106	6	2	.....	1,400
Red Beach.....	Raye.....	do	70	6	3	.....	1,000
E. H. King.....	Bunker	do	106	12	3	1	1,400
Island Belle.....	Stimpson.....	do	58	6	3	.....	900
Lizzie Lee.....	Hubb	do	92	9	2	1	900
Muskrat.....	Chrisson.....	Margaree	14	4	1	1	200
Anemone	Meuse.....	P. E. Island.....	10	3	1	.....	100
Dolphin.....	Chiasson.....	Margaree	14	4	1	.....	120
Laodamia.....	McDonald	P. E. Island.....	96	4	2	1	1,500
J. W.....	Champion	do	27	3	1	.....	440
Janet.....	Bell.....	do	42	5	2	.....	660
Dove.....	McKay.....	do	25	3	1	.....	450
Princess Augusta.....	Coider.....	Campo Bello.....	38	4	1	1	500
Arctic.....	Dockerty	West Isles, N.B.....	29	4	2	.....	500
Katie.....	Martin.....	Canso.....	60	9	2	.....	800
Arcola.....	Purcell	Port Mulgrave.....	37	5	2	.....	500
Jane Otis.....	Keating	do	50	6	2	1	800
Lottie.....	McDonald	P. E. Island.....	57	6	2	.....	800
Dauntless.....	Holmes	St. Andrews	75	6	3	1	1,000
Flirt.....	Mawthorne.....	P. E. Island.....	10	3	1	1	120
N. Noyes.....	Holmes.....	St. Andrews.....	60	6	3	.....	1,000
Sabine.....	do	do	50	4	2	.....	1,000
Typhoon.....	Bouchard.....	Magdalen Island.....	51	5	3	1	500
Cutter.....	Cormier.....	do	27	4	2	.....	230
Marie Louise.....	do	do	21	4	2	.....	150
Esperance	Chiasson.....	do	51	5	2	.....	500
Mary E. Banks	Gardner.....	Yarmouth, N.S.....	50	5	2	.....	900
Delaney	Vigneau.....	Magdalen Island.....	43	5	2	1	400
Cora May.....	Arsineau.....	do	42	5	1	.....	100
Greenock.....	Terrieau.....	do	39	5	2	.....	300
Total, 37 Vessels.	.....	.....	2,125	211	75	11	27,270

RETURN of the Number and Tonnage of Vessels, with the Boats, Men and Nets, employed in the Spring Mackerel Fishery at the Magdalen Islands, during the season of 1875.

Name of Vessel.	Master.	From Whence.	Tons.	Men.	Boats.	Nets.	Barrels of Fish taken
Lavina and Elizabeth	Hawes	Spry Bay.	23	10	5	100	140
Greyhound	LeBoutillier.....	do	23	6	3	60	68
Trial	Hurley	do	33	11	5	100	130
Annie Bella.	Leslie	do	41	11	5	100	160
Defiance.....	Jackson	do	24	9	4	75	100
Mary Ellen	Reeves	Port Mulgrave.....	22	7	2	56	60
Arcola	Purcell.....	do	37	8	2	45	65
Jane Otis.....	Keating	do	50	11	3	70	80
P. Martin	Murphy.....	Ship Harbor.....	20	10	4	50	80
John Thomas.....	Gaeton.....	do	36	12	5	100	170
Two Brothers.....	Ross.....	do	34	4	2	40	60
Lillian	Proctor.....	Port Richmond.....	44	11	4	100	120
Total, 12 Vessels. ....	.....	.....	387	110	44	896	1,233

RECAPITULATION.

Amherst Harbour	5 Vessels.....	211	11	4	4	42	30	.....	2	270	160	.....	.....	1380	1620	130	.....
House Harbour	14 do	586	44	52	.....	166	138	.....	3	1461	1664	.....	.....	800	6565	1250	.....
Grand Total	19 do	797	55	56	4	208	168	.....	5	1731	1824	.....	.....	2180	8185	1380	.....

EXPORTS of Fish and Oil from Magdalen Islands, shewing whence same were exported, during the Season of 1875

Ports.	Dry Codfish.	Pickled Codfish.	Herrings.	Mackerel.	Seal Skins.	Seal Oil.	Cod Oil.	Whale Oil.	Preserved Fish.	Other.	Value.
	Cwt.	Brls.	Brls.	Brls.	Number.	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.	Lbs.	—	
FOREIGN.											\$
To United States			19,000								19,000
COASTWISE.											
<i>Ports in Dominion.</i>											
To New Brunswick			1,150								1,150
Nova Scotia	10,188	183	4,617	4,084	15,404	46,973	2,770		19,200		126,965
Prince Edward Island	204		2,600	2,022		494		975			24,273
Quebec	1,744	404	50	146		15,215	4,130				19,774
Total	12,136	587	27,417	6,252	15,404	62,682	6,900	975	19,200		191,162

RECAPITULATION.

Whence.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Boats.	Seines.	Brls. of Fish taken.	To where exported for market.	
							U. States of America.	Ports in Dominion.
United States	12	1,107	94	30	4	13,700	13,700	.....
Nova Scotia	6	225	33	10	2	3,320	800	2,520
P. E. Island... ..	7	267	27	10	1	4,070	1,500	2,570
New Brunswick.....	5	252	24	11	2	4,000	3,000	1,000
Magdalen Islands.....	7	274	33	14	2	2,180	.....	2,180
Total.....	37	2,125	211	75	11	27,270	19,000	8,270

COMPARATIVE Statement of the Production and Value of the Fisheries at the Magdalen Islands, for the Years 1874 and 1875.

Kinds of Fish.	1874.	Value.	Kinds of Fish.	1875.	Value.
Dry Codfish..... Pickled Codfish..... Herrings..... Mackerel..... Seal Skins..... Seal Oil..... Cod Oil.....	12,112 cwt. at..... \$4 00 1,728 cwt. at..... 4 00 12,137 bbls. at..... 1 00 6,569 bbls. at..... 6 00 4,555 skins at..... 1 00 21,915 galls at..... 0 50 7,395 galls at..... 0 50	\$ 48,448 6,912 12,137 39,414 4,555 10,957 3,025	Dry Codfish..... Pickled Codfish..... Herring..... Mackerel..... Seal Skins..... Seal Oil..... Cod Oil..... Whale Oil..... Preserved Fish..... Halibut.....	11,751 cwt. at..... \$ 4 00 1,284 cwt. at..... 4 00 29,951 bbls. at..... 1 00 6,448 bbls. at..... 9 00 16,447 skins at..... 1 20 63,024 galls at..... 0 50 8,527 galls at..... 0 50 975 galls at..... 0 40 19,200 lbs. at..... 53 bbls. at..... 10 00	\$ 47,004 5,136 29,951 58,032 19,736 21,512 4,263 1,600 530
Total.....		125,448	Value of Fisheries in 1875. do Increase in 1875.....	Value of Fisheries in 1875. 1874..... do Increase in 1875.....	198,154 125,448 72,706

RETURN OF FISHING STATIONS, kinds of Vessels, number of Men, GENERAL RECA

NAME OF PLACE.	Vesesls.				Fishing Boats.		Flat Boats.		No. of Fishermen.	No. of Shoremen.	Salmon Nets.			Cod Seines.			Herring Seines.	
	No.	Tons.	Value.	No. of Sailors.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.
			\$			\$		\$					\$			\$		
Cty. Gaspé	32	4900	79470	190	1292	93952	973	9624	2696	1078	157	22928	6746	1	200	40	...	.....
Bonavent...	39	4064	125000	225	303	16582	295	2950	647	239	554	27223	12484	...	.....	.....	...	.....
Labrador ...	42	1463	50300	123	533	31777	441	5781	1157	562	301	39299	9960	16	3060	3820	22	3706
Magdalen I.	19	797	28800	4	372	10320	165	990	902	580	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	2	500
Anticosti I.	2	35	600	8	118	5781	133	1052	245	74	18	922	175	...	.....	...	1	200
Total...	134	1124	284170	550	2618	158412	2007	20397	6557	2533	1030	90372	29365	17	326	3860	25	4406

NAME OF PLACE.	Salmon, barrels (cured).	Salmon (fresh in ice), lbs.	Salmon (in cans), lbs.	Lobsters (preserved) lbs.	Summer Fishing.	Fall Fishing.
					Cod, quintals.	Cod, quintals.
County of Gaspé.....	125	67926	.....	77844	72112	11285
Bonaventure	279	30227	45206	9120	4575	5156
Labrador	907	112640	60000	.....	23088	4172
Magdalen Islands.....	...	.....	.....	.....	11751	1284
Anticosti Island.....	81	.....	.....	.....	3909	982
Total.....	1392	210793	105206	86964	115435	22779

kinds of Nets used, kinds of Fish and Fish Oils, &c., &c.—*Continued.*

PITULATION.

NETS AND SEINES.

Herring Nets.			Mackerel Seines.			Mackerel Nets.			Caplin Seines.			Launce Seines.			Seal Nets.			Brush Fishries		
Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.
£			£			£			£			£			£			£		£
.....	2210	86130	33652	90	2618 2530	115	5003	1678	126	6494	5103	18	646	534	4	400	400	.....	.....	.....
.....	579	22129	6340	...	.....	124	4170	1300	91	3910	3491	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	40
3854	109	4001	1303	3	570 810	6	286	140	71	4494	3131	22	1560	1355	77	12136	5315	.....	.....	.....
700	171	7076	1693	.....	.....	421	19240	4864	5	420	840	.....	.....	.....	180	11700	5670	.....	.....	.....
160	179	6575	2678	.....	.....	3	150	30	8	480	220	.....	.....	.....	7	382	62	.....	.....	.....
4654	3248	125911	45671	93	3188 3340	669	23749	8012	301	15698	11882	40	2106	1889	268	24618	11447	7	40	.....

Haddock, quintals.		Ling, quintals.		Halibut, barrels.		Herring, barrels.		Mackerel, barrels.		Trout, barrels.		Eels, barrels.		Cod Roes, barrels.		Cod Tongues and Sounds, barrels.		No. of Seals.		No of Seal-skins.		No. of Whales.		No. of Porpoises.		OILS.				FISH USED AS MANURE.	
50	.....	37	564	.....	29	.....	624	383	.....	.....	.....	27	1	.....	20306	17	65458	.....	4261	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
76	33	.....	2820	15	17 11	.....	8	.....	.....	7707	7707	1	3	35225	1500	60	7180	850	10500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	23	9105	30	62	.....	.....	.....	.....	16447	16447	1	.....	63024	975	.....	29364	870	670	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	53	29951	6448	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	215	215	.....	460	.....	.....	8527	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	88	1089	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2940	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
126	33	201	43529	6493	122 11	624	398	24369	24369	29	4	98709	22781	77	113463	1720	15431	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Telegraphic Communications.

It may, perhaps, not be out of place here to mention how advisable, and in fact how necessary, it would be, to have a telegraph cable connecting Magdalen Islands with Prince Edward Island, the distance from the light-house on the South Point of Amherst Island to the light-house on the East Cape of Prince Edward Island being only 90 miles. The establishment of immediate means of communication in cases of wrecks or casualties, would certainly be a great boon to every one, and the commercial community in general.

Postal Communications.

With regard to the postal communications as now carried on, I may say that, although a vast improvement on the old system, still it fails to meet the business requirements of the place. As it is now, the steamer "Albert" plies between Pictou and Amherst only three times a month, the round trip occupying very little more than five days. I think that some additional subsidy would induce her owner to run a weekly mail. Complaints are also made that her last trip in the fall takes place on or about the 8th of November, when it might be fixed at a later date. Numerous signed petitions relative to this matter have been sent in to the Postmaster General.

Land Tenure.

The Quebec Government sent a party of surveyors to the Islands this spring for the purpose of making the *cadastre*. They have nearly completed their work. From what I can learn, it seems there are no reliable official documents or plans of these Islands in the Crown Lands Department, and it is to be hoped that when the present survey and reports are completed, the Provincial Government will be in a position to settle the long and vexed question of purchase from the proprietor, Admiral Coffin. The present system of tenure is very injurious, and delays materially the progress of the place.

Lobster and Mackerel Canning.

A new industry has sprung up this year in the canning of lobsters. Messrs Jones & Co. have put up an extensive establishment at House Harbor, and three others will be built next year in other localities where lobsters are abundant. These firms also intend putting up mackerel in tins. The buildings not being in full operation this year, only about 29,000 lbs of lobsters and mackerel were put up, but from what I have heard I am led to believe that a large business will be done next year. Some families which migrated to the North Shore, within the last two years, have returned, finding, I suppose, they can do better here than on the Labrador coast.

It is with pleasure I am able to state that no complaints were brought before me this season, peace and order having prevailed all over the Islands.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

N. LAVOIE.

APPENDIX No. 4.

SPECIAL REPORT ON THE DECLINE OF SALMON FISHERY IN THE
DIVISION OF GASPÉ.

L'ISLET, 15th January, 1876.

SIR,—Although I have alluded to this matter in my general report of operations for the past season, I deem it my special duty to bring under your immediate notice the alarming state of decrease into which, of late years, has the salmon fishery of the Division of Gaspé fallen. The following figures will better illustrate the state of things.

In 1870 the catch	of salmon	was	541	barrels,
" 1871	"	"	460	"
" 1872	"	"	343	"
" 1873	"	"	294	"
" 1874	"	"	311	"
" 1875	"	"	357	"

Last year's success is somewhat better than that of 1874; but this is entirely due to the unprecedented success of outside stands, such as those of Sandy Beach and Cape aux Os.

I consider that a speedy and efficient remedy should be applied in order to prevent, if possible, a total extinction of this valuable branch of industry. Your Department annually spends large sums of money to assist in restocking the Gaspé rivers; the protection of these streams and the enforcement of the Fishery Laws thereon require a large staff of officials; the new Fish Breeding Establishment at Gaspé Basin will every year turn out thousands of young fry to the ultimate benefit and advantage of net fishermen; and I cannot see why some check should not be placed upon the greediness and well-known apathy of these people, in order to make them assist in some direct or indirect manner to the attainment of a new state of things.

The following plans naturally suggests themselves to one's mind:—

1. To abolish at once a certain number of stands, selecting parties who hold more than one station;
2. On no account whatever to issue new licenses until the improved state of that fishery shall warrant our doing so;
3. Should a station become vacant, either by the licensee's demise or his removing from the locality, this station should at once be abolished and the license not renewed to another party, in order to gradually thin the number of existing stands;
4. Every possible exertion should be made to associate together the owners of several stands under a joint license, instead of having three or more, as at present. This plan, according to my notions, would be the fairest way to meet the question. It would at once reduce the quantity of netting without depriving the men of the privilege of fishing. This arrangement would save fishermen a great deal of expense in having each to provide nets and fish at a separate station, whilst the cost would be divided among three or four, and as a result, the stand would be fished cheaper and in a more profitable manner.

Should this last measure which, I repeat it, I consider the fairest way to meet the difficulty, meet your approval, I could take the necessary steps to carry it out during the next season. Fishermen might be shown that a stand thus fished would cost them about one-third less than fishing three, and could be had for one-third the price. Probably the catch of one might not be, at first, quite equal to that of three stations; but the removal of so many impediments to the run of fish would improve the supply, whilst the cost of setting would be comparatively reduced.

A glance at the sketch herewith attached, and on which are shown all the salmon fishery stations in Gaspé, with the names of occupants, will enable you to immediately understand the necessity of the measure which I recommend to your special consideration.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant;

N. LAVOIE.

Hon. A. J. Smith,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

APPENDIX No. 5.

RETURN of Fishing Stations, Number and Value of Fishing Boats and Nets, Number of Men, together with the Yield, Value and Kinds of Fish, on the South Shore of the River St. Lawrence, from Point Levis to Capte Chatte, during the Year 1875.

NAME OF PLACES.	KINDS OF NETS USED.				KINDS OF FISH.															
	Salmon Nets.		Brush Fisheries with Nets.		Brush Fisheries.		Eel Fisheries.		No. of Salmon.	No. of Shad.	Herrings, barrels.	No. of Eels.	Sturgeon, barrels.	Sardines, barrels.	Bar and White Fish dozen.	Small Fish, barrels.	Fish for Manure, barrels.	Touladi, barrels.	Codfish, quintals.	
	No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.												Value.
Pointe Levis.....			\$	30	\$		\$		98	5,836					175					
Beauport.....				3					132	8,200					120					
St. Michel.....				1					20	6,000					30					
St. Valer.....				2					61	3,520		1,000	19		501					
Berthier.....				2					25	3,000		1,940	1		500					
St. Thomas.....										227		3,239	152		636					
Cap. St. Ignace.....												585	44		129					
L'Islet.....												4,422								
St. Jean Port Joli.....												7,365								
St. Roch.....												50								
Ste. Anne.....												13,540								
Isle aux Oies and Isle au Grues.....												8,500								
Riviere Ouelle.....												27,050								
Pointe au Orignaux.....												6,050								
Petite Anse St. Denis and Pointe St. Denis.....																				
Islets St. Denis.....												6,150	1		1	4				
Ruisseau Leclerc.....												6,000								
Islets aux Harengs.....												9,000	5		5	40				
Kamouraska, (including adjacent Islands).....																				
Islet au Patin.....												8,920	2							
													10		1					

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE of the different Fisheries from Point Levis to Cape Chatte.

		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Cod fishery	2,500 quintals at	5 00	12,500 00
Herring fishery.....	6,311 barrels	5 00	31,555 00
Salmon (fresh in ice).....	70,900 lbs.	0 05	3,545 00
Sturgeon fishery.....	263 barrels	8 00	2,104 00
Bar and Whitefish	2,129 dozen	2 00	4,258 00
Shad.....	85,822 pieces	0 10	8,582 20
Sardines	930 barrels ..	5 00	4,650 00
Eels.....	120,550 pieces	0 10	12,555 00
Small fish.....	166 barrels	0 25	41 50
Touladi.....	150 do	8 00	1,200 00
Fish used as Manure.....	4,557 do	0 25	1,139 25
Total value of the products of the Fisheries in 1875.....			82,129 95
do do 1874			129,633 25
Decrease			47,503 30

APPENDIX No. 6.

RETURN of Fishing Stations, Yield, Kinds of Fish, &c., on the North side of the River St. Lawrence, from Quebec to Bersimis, during the Year 1875.

NAMES OF PLACES.	Seines.		Number of Fishermen.	KINDS OF NETS USED.						KINDS OF FISH.													
	No.	Value.		Salmon Nets.		Brush Fisheries with nets.		Brush Fisheries		Eel Fisheries	No. of Salmon.	No. of Shad.	Herrings, barrels.	No. of Eels.	Sturgeon, barrels.	Sardines, barrels.	Bar White Fish, dozen.	Small Fish, barrels.	Fish for Manure, barrels.	No. of Winonish.	Trout (Grey).	No. of Porpoise.	Porpoise Oil.
				Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.														
<i>Island of Orleans :</i>		\$																					
St. Laurent.....	1	36	2	2	440	220					60	1850				16							
St. Jean			1																				
St. François (south side of the Island).....																							
Argenteau.....																							
St. François (north side of the Island).....																							
St. Famille	5	120	5		1	10	8	144	2	14													
St. Pierre	6	150	6					15	256														
Ange Gardien.....								1	12														
Chateau Richer.....								3	49														
St. Anne								1	15	5	54												
St. Joachim.....										6	335												
St. Joachim (Farm).....										11	209												
St. Joachim (Parish).....										13	164												
St. Agnes and Lakes.....																							
Étée St. Paul.....																							
Cap aux Corbeaux																							
Isle aux Condres								8	200	52	1040												
La Misère.....								1	10	14	299												
Petite Rivière, St. François Xavier.....										61	2358												

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE OF THE DIFFERENT FISHERIES FROM QUEBEC TO BERSIMIS.

Salmon (fresh in ice)	17,385 lbs. at .	\$0 05	\$869 25
Herring	219 barrels.....	5 00	1,095 00
Winnonish.....	9,050 pieces.....	0 25	2,262 50
Trout (Grey)	137 barrels.....	8 00	1,096 00
Sturgeon.....	12 do	8 00	96 00
Bar and White Fish	756 dozen	2 00	1,512 00
Shad.....	2,050 pieces.....	0 10	205 00
Sardines	107 barrels.....	5 00	535 00
Eels	54,272 pieces.....	0 10	5,427 20
Small Fish	2,397 barrels.....	0 25	599 25
Fish used as manure.....	1,549 do	0 25	387 25
Porpoise Oil	2,590 gallons..	0 80	2,072 00
do	102 pieces.....	16 0	1,632 00
Total value of the products of the Fisheries, 1875.....			\$17,788 45
do do	do 1874.....		17,993 70
	Decrease		\$205 25

APPENDIX No. 7.

RETURN of Number and Value of Fishing Boats and Nets, together with the Yield, Value and Kinds of Fish, &c., in the Districts above Quebec, during the year 1875.

NAMES OF PLACES.	Fishing Boats.		Number of Fishermen.		KINDS OF NETS USED.								KINDS OF FISH.											
	No.	Value.	Gill Nets.		Seines.		Pound Nets.		Eel Fisheries.		No. of Salmon.	No. of Shad.	No. of Maskinonge.	No. of Belts.	Sturgeon, barrels.	Tom Cod, bushels.	Bar and White Fish dozen.	Lunge, barrels.	Speckled Trout, lbs	Pickereel, barrels.	Pike, barrels.	Mixed Fish, barrels		
			No.	Yards.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.													Value.	
District of St. Francis.....	6	150	6	300	60													250				200		
do Richelieu.....	500	14500								2	1000		20000									9000		
do Montreal.....	120	4200											6000									2400		
St. Therese du Richelieu.....	2	10					2	25		1	150		4660									30		
do Iberville.....	12	120					12	250		2	700		24767									393		
St. Valentin.....	2	20					2	30														28		
Pike River.....	5	144					6	100				400								4		47		
Missisquoi Bay.....	15	745					13	200	2	800		6220	350							80		59		
Chateaugay Division.....																						900		
Beaulieu do.....	60	1200											500									1300		
Lake des Chenes.....	15	420		47	1060	220	1	15														500		
Gatineau Point to Black Bay.....	29	900		110	1270	250	5	120												120	100	2000		
Gatineau Lakes (angling).....																						500		
Thurso to Papineauville.....	6	150		22	472	99	2	60												100	100	1000		
Terrebonne.....	200	6500										40500										6050		
Three Rivers.....	792	29069	185	3002	620		43	800	2	800	5	1850	53	47120	850	85477	4	20400	850	250	11000	304	200	23407

RECAPITULATION.

VALUE of the different Fisheries in the Districts above Quebec.

Kinds of Fish.	Quantities.	Prices.	Value.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Salmon (fresh in ice).....	795 lbs.....	0 05	35 75
Shad fishery.....	47,120 pieces.....	0 10	4,712 00
Pickereel do	304 barrels.....	10 00	3,040 00
Eel do	85,477 pieces.....	0 10	8,547 70
Sturgeon do	4 barrels.....	8 00	32 00
Tom Cod do	20,400 bushels.	0 50	10,200 00
Whitefish.....	850 dozen.....	2 00	1,700 00
Maskinongé.....	850 pieces.....	2 00	1,700 00
Lunge.....	250 barrels	25 00	6,250 00
Trout (speckled).....	11,000 lbs.....	0 10	1,100 00
Pike.....	200 barrels.....	10 00	2,000 00
Mixed Fish.....	23,407 do	5 00	117,035 00
	Total.....		156,356 45

APPENDIX No. 8.

GENERAL Recapitulation of the yield of the Fisheries on the North and South Shores of the River and Gulf St. Lawrence, from Quebec to Blanc Sablon, and from Point Lévis to Baie des Chaleurs, and in the Districts above Quebec, during the year 1875.

Kinds of Fish.	1874.		Prices.	1875.	
	Quantities.	Value.		Quantities.	Value.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.		\$ cts.
Summer Cod-fishery.....	122,509 qntls.	612,545 00	5 00	117,935 qntls.	589,675 00
Autumn do	29,024 do	145,120 00	5 00	22,779 do	113,895 00
Herrings, pickled	43,405 brls.	217,025 00	5 00	50,059 brls.	250,295 00
do smoked	1,889 boxes	472 25	0 25		
do fresh water.....	20 brls.	100 00	5 00		
Mackerel	7,278 do	72,780 00	10 00	6,493 brls.	64,930 00
Haddock	241 qntls.	1,205 00	5 00	126 qntls.	630 00
Ling	43 do	215 00	5 00	33 do	165 00
Halibut.....	302 brls.	1,872 00	6 00	201 brls.	1,206 00
Salmon, pickled	1,313 do	21,008 00	16 00	1,392 do	22,272 00
do fresh in ice	531,992 lbs.	26,599 60	0 05	299,873 lbs.	14,993 65
do preserved	280,402 cans	70,100 50	0 25	105,206 cans.	26,301 50
Lunge, trout	430 brls.	10,750 00	25 00	250 brls.	6,250 00
Winnonish, trout	7,500 pcs.	1,875 00	0 25	9,050 pcs.	2,262 50
Tuladi do			8 00	150 brls.	1,200 00
Trout, grey.....	134 brls.	1,072 00	8 00	259 do	2,072 00
do speckled	10,000 lbs.	1,000 00	0 10	11,000 lbs.	1,100 00
Sturgeon	559 brls.	4,472 00	8 00	279 brls.	2,232 00
Bar and Whitefish.....	11,360 doz.	22,720 00	2 00	3,735 doz.	7,470 00
Shad	66,873 pcs.	6,687 30	0 10	134,992 pcs.	13,499 20
Sardines	902 brls.	4,510 00	5 00	1,037 brls.	5,185 00
Eels	374,187 pcs.	37,418 70	0 10	266,619 pcs.	26,661 90
Pike.....	60 brls.	600 00	10 00	200 brls.	2,000 00
Pickrel	186 do	1,860 00	10 00	304 do	3,040 00
Tom Cod	20,000 bush.	10,000 00	0 50	20,400 bush.	10,200 00
Small fish			0 25	2,563 brls.	640 75
Maskinongé.....	500 pcs.	1,000 00	2 00	850 pcs.	1,700 00
Seals	12,639 do	75,834 00	6 00	24,369 do	146,214 00
Porpoise			16 00	104 do	1,696 00
Lobsters, preserved	254,908 cans.	63,727 00	0 25	86,964 cans.	21,741 00
Mixed fish	20,353 brls.	101,765 00	5 00	23,407 brls.	117,035 00
Fish used as manure	14,569 do	3,642 25	0 25	23,881 do	5,970 25
Cod Tongues and Sounds.....	209 do	1,463 00	7 00	398 do	2,786 00
do Roes.....			8 00	624 do	4,992 00
do Oil.....	97,709 galls.	48,854 50	0 50	113,469 galls.	56,734 50
Seal Oil.....	54,095 do	27,047 50	0 50	98,709 do	49,354 50
Whale Oil.....	16,620 do	13,296 00	0 80	22,781 do	18,224 80
Porpoise Oil	17 do	13 60	0 80	2,667 do	2,133 60
		1,608,660 20			1,594,259 15

A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,
Fisheries Branch, Ottawa, 1875.

(Certified)

W. F. WHITCHER.

Commissioner of Fisheries.

APPENDIX No. 9.

SYNOPSIS OF FISHERY OVERSEERS' AND GUARDIANS' REPORTS IN THE
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC FOR THE YEAR 1875.

SOUTH SHORE DIVISION, FROM POINT LEVIS TO CAPE CHATTE.

CLOVIS CARON,
HERMENEGILDE MARTIN, } Overseers.
L. E. GRONDIN,

The following comparative Table exhibits the yield of the fisheries in this division.

—	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Salmon (pieces).....	4,545	5,758	9,574	4,432	3,374	4,726	3,342	4,171
Shad do	32,242	26,987	16,249	25,035	18,410	18,094	20,583	85,822
Herrings (brls).....	30,117	13,135	6,671	2,169	7,174	12,545	12,903	6,311
Sturgeon do	350	369	219	242	130	298	523	263
Sardines (tinnets)...	11,702	10,262	6,688	1,443	1,658	868	900	930
Cod (quintals).....	3,100	4,600	4,900	2,200	300	.....	3,200	2,500
Eels (pieces).....	160,242	99,500	109,125	109,204	73,352	96,734	151,442	125,550
Porpoises	12	77	208	115	6	.....	.....	.....
Total Value....	\$195,770	\$125,992	\$108,830	\$48,251	\$54,087	\$78,218	\$110,899	\$82,918

This division comprises three districts—first, from Point Levis to River Ouelle, under the supervision of Overseer C. Caron; second, from River Ouelle to Rimouski, under the supervision of Overseer H. Martin; and third, from Rimouski to Matane, under the supervision of Overseer L. E. Grondin.

The success of fisheries in each of the above-named districts having been different, the report of each overseer is given separately.

Overseer Caron reports that early last spring he visited the brush fisheries set at St. Roch and St. Anne, and noticed that fishermen were setting them in compliance with instructions from the Department, and according to law.

Disputes between neighbours, which used to be so common, have greatly diminished; only a couple of difficulties occurred during the season, which were amicably settled. This improvement is due to the system of granting licenses, and to greater care in the description of respective limits. Fishing was generally as productive as last year, except salmon, bar and sturgeon.

Shad Fishery.

This fishery was very abundant, 17,253 being taken this year, against 10,050 in 1874.

Sturgeon Fishery.

Only 237 barrels were caught, against 523 last year.

Eel Fishery.

Had it not been for the heavy snow storm which occurred on the 17th September, it is very likely that the catch of eels would have been far superior to any of the previous years; however, this fishery shows a slight increase over that of 1874.

One of the causes of decline in the yield of fisheries in this division may be attributed to sawdust and mill rubbish, which hinders fish from approaching the shores. Some parties also complain that their nets are obstructed with edgings and chips. Others attribute the disappearance of fish to depredations committed by seals and porpoises, or to the noise and disturbances created by steamers and other vessels navigating the St. Lawrence. It is a well-known fact that the decrease of bar is due to a practice which so long prevailed of taking them with seines of too small a mesh, thereby destroying an immense quantity of young fish. A close season might be of advantage to remedy the evil. Fishing, in the lakes and rivers where there are no mills, was good. All those who frequented these places agree in saying that the speckled trout is increasing in our lakes.

Overseer Martin reports that fishing was very good in his division this year, especially shad fishing. Sardines were also numerous but small, and fishermen preferred to let them escape. The law was generally well observed.

Overseer Grondin reports that, taking all together, this season was not satisfactory for fishermen. Salmon seem to be disappearing; so is codfish. Herrings and sardines appear, however, to be returning to the waters of this division, and the poor, to whom they are one of the principal articles of food, rejoice in seeing these fish as abundant as formerly.

The following is the salmon angling score in the Rimouski River for the past ten years:—

1865.....	8 salmon.
1866.....	32 do
1867.....	36 do
1868.....	48 do
1869.....	57 do
1870.....	18 do
1871.....	68 do
1872.....	47 do
1873.....	43 do
1874.....	73 do
1875.....	27 do

There were caught in Meis River, as follows:—

1870.....	19 salmon.
1871.....	30 do
1872.....	52 do
1873.....	57 do
1874.....	146 do
1875.....	36 do

And in Matane River:—

1874.....	49 salmon.
1875.....	62 do

So soon as the river was frozen, twenty salmon which had not yet returned to sea, were counted by the Overseer, who also reports that most of the trout caught contained eggs already quite large.

TEMISCOUATA DIVISION.

GEORGE GAGNON, *Guardian*.

This Division comprises the inland waters of the County of Temiscouata, the principal of which being the lake of that name. The kinds of fish caught in it are whitefish and Tuladi (trout). This last-mentioned fish is worth from \$5 to \$6 per barrel, and is generally sent to New Brunswick or used for home consumption. Owing to want of means, no net fishing is carried on in this division; fascine fisheries only being used. Were nets used instead of fascines, the yield would be far more important.

CAPE CHATTE DIVISION.

JOSEPH J. LÉTOURNEAU, *Overseer*.

STATEMENT showing the yield of fisheries in this division.

Kinds of Fish.*	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Cod fish. quintals	7,635	8,666	6,354	5,625	4,160	3,860
Halibut barrels..	12	7	11	.....	3	2
Salmon do ..	25	20	8	26	23½	12
Trout..... do ..	8	13	10	9	3½	24
Herring do ..	25	34	37	27	45	2
Fish used as manure. do ..	.....	300	1,300	260	1,500	3,000
Cod Oil.....gallons..	3,965	5,280	2,353	1,078	1,604	1,995
Seal Oil..... do ..	146	122	787	440	.....	.....

Cod-fishing shows a decrease this year, the same as in 1874; the reason being that the fish did not keep near shore as usual. This failure, after all, did not prove to be a disadvantage, as the parties failing in the fishery had to attend solely to their farms, which yielded them abundant crops. They are above want for next winter, whilst those who were engaged only in fishing are most destitute, and will have to rely on common charity for a living during the winter.

Ste. Anne des Monts River seems to be quite as well stocked as ever; but the catch was smaller on account of one of the best stations being let to Mr. Hogan, the angling lessee, who did not fish it. Fly fishing was not so good as usual, owing to the water being too low and the weather too hot. The fish appeared to be as numerous as ever in the river.

The number of salmon caught with the fly in this river since 1871 is as follows:—

Year.	No. of Salmon.	Average weight.
1871	8	
1872	13	
1873	87	17½
1874	140	19½
1875	69	21

The above table shows a steady increase, with the exception of this year; and had it not been for shallowness of water and great heat, the local Overseer is confident that the yield would have been greater than last year.

Trout were abundant; more than twelve barrels being caught. Fishermen lost the best part of the season on account of their nets being old and out of order.

Cape Chatte River seems to have been frequented by a larger number of salmon than formerly; some of these being noticed at a distance of twenty-five miles up stream.

The parties mentioned in last year's report as having been caught spearing salmon, were brought before the officer in command of the fisheries' protection steamer and severely punished. Poaching was also carried on this year in Cape Chatte River. The Overseer found out traces of spearing in the woods about five miles up stream, but could not discover the guilty parties until the fall, when they were imprisoned on another accusation for stealing.

GASPÉ, MALBAIE AND PABOS DIVISIONS.

PHILIP VIBERT, JR., *Overseer*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

	1873.	1874.	1875.
Cod fishery—quintals.....	53,041	46,623	61,691
Herring fishery—barrels.....	2,529	1,527	552
Mackerel do do.....	563	170	.....
Salmon (pickled) do.....	361	99	49
do (fresh, in ice) lbs.....	.....	118,304	76,717
Whale oil—galls.....	.....	16,300	20,306
Cod oil—galls.....	36,960	29,398	44,034
Seal oil do.....	11,692	.....	.....

The different fisheries carried on in this division being treated at length in Dr. Lavoie's report, it is not deemed necessary to repeat the Overseer's remarks here. Mr. Vibert speaks as follows of the streams of his division:—

DARTMOUTH RIVER.

Messrs. Guild and Barnes angled this year from 17th June to 8th July, and killed 39 fish, weighing 565 lbs. The river kept too high for angling during ten days. These gentlemen seemed, however, well pleased with their sport. Thirty salmon and a large quantity of trout were also taken by other anglers. The local guardian estimates at 200 the number of salmon at the falls in August.

ST. JOHN RIVER.

This river seems to be well stocked. A good number of salmon are reported at the upper pools.

YORK RIVER.

Angling here was indifferent, compared with last season.

MALBAY RIVER.

This stream rose very much after the 10th September, so that it was impossible to ascertain the number of fish that had gone up to the breeding pools.

GRAND RIVER.

Dr. Clerk and party angled this stream and were well pleased with their sport, having landed 144 fish of an average weight of $13\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; the largest fish weighing 28 lbs. The lessee states that he never saw the river so well stocked with young salmon.

PABOS RIVER.

This river was not angled during the present season. Both the north and west branches were well guarded. The local guardian reports 40 fish on the north and several in the pools on the west. The stream being too rapid in October prevented him from judging the exact number. Fine gravel beds are to be found on this river.

LITTLE PABOS.

This is a small stream. The local guardian reports about half a dozen fish at the falls in October. He experienced some trouble last spring in preventing the use of *flambeaux* by the inhabitants, under pretext of eel-spearing; but the people begin to understand they must abandon this practice.

MALBAY RIVER.

The use of *flambeaux* will also have to be stopped here.

GRAND PABOS.

The overseer suggests the necessity of placing a second guardian on the west branch for two months during the fall.

PORT DANIEL DIVISION.

JOHN PHELAN, *Overseer*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of the fisheries in this division.

—	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Cod fish	8,145	6,967	6,175	8,970	7,590	6,175	4,465	5,245
Salmon	57	79	120	108	110	148	110	88
Herring	515	370	695	1,231	830	280	710	1,020

Salmon fishing in this division was a partial failure. This, however, is not to be attributed to a decrease in the number of fish, as the falling off was particularly felt in the inshore fisheries, whilst outside fishermen did as well, and some even better, than in previous years. Salmon were apparently as plentiful as usual, but kept outside during the fishing season, owing to capelin remaining on the shores of this division long after the fishing season was over. At Paspebiac, capelin were caught on the 3rd July; and at Port Daniel they were found in stomachs of salmon caught outside as late as the 18th July.

Cod-fishing was good at Port Daniel, but failed at other places, especially during the fall. The fish were abundant, but the water kept rough and windy, and bait was scarce.

Spring herrings were very abundant at Chigouac and Port Daniel, about the latter end of May; but as the inhabitants were unprovided with barrels and salt to cure them, they had to be used as manure. At Port Daniel, summer herring appeared in September. The catch was so great that barrels of excellent fish had to be thrown overboard, and several nets sank to the bottom full of fish and were lost. This run

continued only for two or three days; the fish were very superior in size and quality. Summer herrings did not strike at other places, and that fishery was a failure even at Nouvelle and Chigouac where these fish seldom fail.

Mackerel completely deserted the shores of this division during the present season.

Lobster fishing was carried on at Port Daniel by Mr. A. Vye with but poor success. He canned only 9,120 lbs., whilst he had prepared for more than double that quantity.

CASCAPEDIA AND MARIA DIVISIONS.

R. W. H. DIMOCK, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of the fisheries in this division.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish..... quintals.	5,580	5,375	6,740	4,486
Herrings..... barrels..	8,990	2,250	2,080	1,800
Mackerel..... do ..	104	27	20	15
Haddock..... do ..	133	83	122	76
Salmon..... lbs.....	96,800	116,955	95,824	24,386
Trout..... barrels..	3	5	15	17
Lobsters..... lbs.....			4,176	5,844

This division now extends from Paspebiac to Maguasha Point, a distance of sixty miles of sea coast. Within these limits there are three large rivers—the Grand and Little Cascapedias and the Bonaventure, and thirty-five fishing stations to oversee. Taking altogether, last season was a failure in regard to fishing. Herring did not strike in large quantities, except at Bonaventure, where 1,350 barrels were taken for market use, and about 400 for home consumption.

Mackerel were very scarce, a few were taken for bait in cod-fishing. No American vessels were seen above Paspebiac.

Trout were as plentiful as usual along the sea shore; 17 barrels being taken by fishermen and farmers. The rivers, and particularly the Little Cascapedia, were also well stocked with these fish.

Salmon did not strike as early as usual, and there is a great deficiency in the catch compared with that of last year.. The cause of this failure is difficult to ascertain; the deficiency being a general thing all over the coast. Grand Cascapedia River is well stocked, particularly in the upper pools. Anglers who fished this stream last season came a little late, and the height of the water injured their sport; but altogether they were satisfied.

The clearing of a wood jam, which prevented the ascent of fish in Little Cascapedia River, and the removal of three fishery stations off the mouth, will undoubtedly soon make it a favorite resort for anglers. The lessee declared himself satisfied with the prospects, but was unable to remain. He intends, however, returning early next season.

Bonaventure River was well stocked with breeding fish, but the rise of water interfered with the sport of the anglers as the Salmon would not take the fly. The following is the score of angling during the past five years:—

	Grand Cascapedia River.					Little Cascapedia River.					Bonaventure River.				
	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875
No. of Salmon.....	44	136	68	418	269	Not angled.	Not angled.	11	3	4	60	30	22	15	26
Weight in lbs.....	1,012	3,100	1,434	9,902	6,862	Not angled.	Not angled.	194	57	120	770	487	366	225	290.
Average wght. in lbs..	23	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	23 $\frac{1}{16}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	Not angled.	Not angled.	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{5}{16}$	22	13	16	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	11 $\frac{4}{25}$

The following prosecutions were brought against parties for fishing illegally:—

Name of Defendant.	Fines Imposed.	Costs.	Nature of Offence.
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	
John Gideon	1 50	1 50	Fishing for trout during close-season.
Wm. LeBuffle.....	1 00	1 00	do do
Noel Martin.	1 00	1 00	do do
Telesphore LeBuffle.....	1 00	1 00	do do
Peter Powell.....	1 00	1 00	do do
James Clare.....	1 00	1 00	do do
Richard LeBuffle	1 00	1 00	do do
Joseph Cornice.....	1 00	1 00	do do
Wm. Brown.....	1 50	0 75	do do
George Brown.....	2 00	1 50	do do

MATAPEDIA AND RESTIGOUCHE DIVISIONS.

JOHN MOWAT, *Overseer.*

Although the spring of 1875 was cold and late, fishermen had nets set as early as the 8th June, in the tidal portion of the river. Fish began to arrive from sea about the 14th and continued in abundance until the 28th, when they disappeared and did not again return for the season. The rise of the water in July injured the upper tidal fishery; this being the period when fishermen make their best fishing.

The catch is about one-fifth below that of last year, and owing to the depressed state of the market which induced many to quit fishing sooner than they otherwise would have done, the decrease in this division is not to be wondered at. The principal cause of the scarcity of fish this season is owing to the fact that in the fall of 1872 heavy freshets occurred just at the spawning time, and the fish deposited their

eggs close in-shore and on the high bars. The water falling before the ice had formed left the nests dry, and the eggs were consequently destroyed. Had the above mentioned year been a favourable one, there would have been quite a number of fish weighing from 12 to 14 lbs., from that year. This cause will, it is hoped never happen again, there being an annual stock of fry sufficient for the river independent of the natural supply. This Overseer also remarks that nearly every tenth fish taken showed marks of having been torn or bitten at sea. Some had a piece completely bitten out between the tail and vent, as if they had been seized from underneath; others had marks as of three claws or nails immediately behind the shoulder; the mark running back to the tail stripping the scales off, and in some cases cutting through the skin.

Net-fishing by Indians and Settlers.

As very few salmon ascend the river before the 20th of June, and as net-fishing for settlers is limited to the 10th July, few fish are taken by them, especially when high water or late timber drives occur during that period. The catch was poor this season; the fish appearing to keep the middle of the stream more than usual, while the water was clear and not high. Only three stations exceeded three barrels each. Less illegal fishing was attempted than usual; only four nets having been seized for violation of the fishery laws.

The Indians give but very little trouble. They are allowed to use hook and line for trout, and are generally followed by the guardians when they go up the river gathering berries and bark. Only one violation occurred this year. Their nets gave but poor returns. Two of the tribe acted as fishermen; but they did not understand fishing. The catch was divided among the tribe.

Angling.

Taken as a whole, and considering the scarcity of salmon in nearly all the northern rivers, angling was successful. As a general rule anglers are too late; as what is commonly called the "big run" of fish always comes in the last two weeks in June, and in the first week in July. During that period one hundred rods could find good fishing on the rivers of this division. Towards the middle or latter end of July the fish begin to gather in the pools, when good fishing is commonly done should the state of water be favourable.

August is an uncertain month; fish, unless just from sea, will not rise to the fly, and are difficult to catch.

The best fishing this season was done by Mr. Higgingson, at Indian House pool, about the 14th July—23 fish being caught in less than two days, averaging 17 lbs. The score of angling is as follows:—

	Salmon.	Average weight.
In Metapedia River.....	73	19½ lbs.
Upsalquitch do	97	15½ "
Restigouche, Middle Division.....	221	17½ "
do Upper do	84	19 "
do Lower do	96	18 "
	571	

QUEBEC AND MONTMORENCY DIVISIONS.

D. ROSA, }
L. H. HUOT, } *Guardians.*

The following is a comparative statement of the fisheries in the Montmorency division:—

—	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
No of Salmon	96	91	82	150	114	60
do Shad	1,057	1,100	1,550	1,600	2,250	1,850
do Eels	19,059	14,728	51,932	9,202	11,856	5,317
do Sturgeon	1,314	1,882	1,901 doz.	83 brls.	32½	12
do doz. Bar and Whitefish ...	1,902	2,126	2,074	447	712	294
do brls. small Fish	271	759	412	66	92	40

These statistics show a considerable decrease in the yield of the fisheries in this division. The catch of bar, whitefish and sturgeon is two-thirds, and that of eels one-half less than last year. This bad success is attributed by the Overseer to unfavourable weather.

MURRAY BAY DIVISION.

J. E. DEMEULES, *Overseer.*

Salmon were not so abundant as last year in the rivers of this division. This is due to the low state of the water which prevented the fish from going up the rivers last year. Capelin, smelt, and other kinds of small fish were abundant during the whole season on the shores of this division. It is probably owing to such abundance of small fish that the unusual large catch of porpoises was made this year. At Isle aux Condres 102 porpoises were killed, yielding over 2,000 gallons of oil, and giving the fishermen a clear profit of over \$1,500. Three parties, Theophile Tremblay, Ferdinand Bergeron and Gaspard Simard were prosecuted and fined, the former for violation of the "Weekly Clause-time," and the latter for netting trout in Grand Lake Nairne.

LAKE ST. JOHN DIVISION.

JOB BILODEAU, *Guardian.*

Comparative statement of the yield of the fisheries in this division:—

	1874.	1875.
No. of Winnonish	7,500	9,050
do doz. of Whitefish	1,162	440

Protection is giving good results in this division, and prospects of fishermen are very good. The people also understand that compliance with the law is to their interest, and submit to the regulations with a good will.

SAGUENAY DIVISION.

FERDINAND SAILLANT, *Overseer.*JOSEPH BOILY, *Guardian.*

Yield of the salmon net fishing for the last six years :—

In 1870	3,275 salmon.
1871	3,462 do
1872	3,312 do
1873	2,481 do
1874	2,482 do
1875	981 do

Salmon fishing was very poor in this division owing to two reasons: 1st, the fish kept outside; 2nd, very few salmon descended the rivers last fall and winter; the fish coming down with the ice were partially destroyed, or were probably too late to return during the same year. A large number of foul salmon were caught in nets.

River Bersimis.

Mr. Saillant refers to his report of last year on that river, and adds that he believes the ruin of this river to be complete. Only 25 or 30 salmon were killed last season.

Portneuf River.

A guardian is required for the upper part of this stream, the person stationed at the mouth being unable to guard the whole, and there being enough of salmon to warrant the engagement of a new man.

Islets Penchés to Tadousac.

Fishing very poor.

St. Margaret River.

The number of salmon in this river was smaller than usual, but still sufficient to secure a good supply for reproduction. Five or six thousand salmon fry which were distributed in this river last spring will also help in keeping it to its previous prosperity. No violation of the fishery laws were reported.

Little Saguenay.

Salmon ascended this stream in sufficient numbers for reproduction. The river is well protected.

Anse St. Jean River.

About 20,000 salmon fry were distributed in this river last spring.

Eternity River

About 30 salmon ascended this river to spawn, which is considered a very fair number.

Descente des Femmes River.

About 12 salmon ascended the river to spawn.

River à Mars.

This river, which is considered a good stream either for fly fishing or as a breeding river, was visited by a smaller number of salmon during the fall than usual. The fish, nevertheless, ascended in sufficient numbers to ensure a good reproduction. The principal obstacle to the ascent of fish in this river is Abel Tremblay's mill dam; but owing to ameliorations in the fish-way the fish were hardly stopped in their progress.

The following is the score of angling for the past four years :—

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
River St. Marguerite, N.W. Branch.....	112	125	133	77
do do N.E. do	53	50	150	55
do à Mars	3	28	75	28
do Anse St. Jean	13	39	71	31
do Petit Saguenay	11	Not angled	83	39

The following prosecutions were brought against persons for fishing illegally :—

Names of Defendants.	Fines imposed.	Costs.	Nature and Place of Offence.
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	
Joseph Ames	4 00	2 50	Killing salmon fry in R. à Mars.
Jacques Girard	1 00	1 20	Killing salmon with spear in fish-way, River à Mars.
Homère Girard	1 00	1 20	Same offence.
Evrage Tremblay	20 00	6 25	Letting sawdust and mill rubbish in Anse St. Jean River.
Ferdinand Pinault	20 00	6 25	do
Pierre Côté	1 00	1 20	do
Hippolite Gagné	1 00	1 20	do
Agapit Houle	1 00	1 20	do
William Tremblay	1 00	1 20	do
Peter Boivin	1 00	1 20	do
Hercule Bergeron	1 00	1 20	do
Abel Martel	1 00	1 20	do
Fidelin Gagné	1 00	1 20	do
Elie Tremblay	1 00	1 20	do
Elzéar Côté	1 00	1 20	do
François Gagné	1 00	1 20	do
Evrage Tremblay	50 00	7 10	do
Ferdinand Pinault	50 00	7 10	do
Joseph Larouche	20 00	3 75	do

GODBOUT DIVISION.

GEORGE L. DUGUAY, *Overseer.*

Mistassini River was visited three times by this Overseer. Salmon is abundant, the average weight being from 15 to 18 pounds. One Laurent Thibault was caught barring the stream with a net; his fish and nets were confiscated and he was besides fined \$20.

There are but few salmon in Betscie River, and plenty of fine trout. This river, with good guardians, will soon become well stocked with salmon. At a distance of about 2½ miles from the St. Lawrence there occurs a fall, at the foot of which the river forms a fine pool with sandy bottom, very convenient for a breeding ground. From the reports of old settlers, it is ascertained that Betscie and Mistassini Rivers formerly abounded in salmon, but destruction was practised on such a large scale, and people were so used to it, that notwithstanding all notices and warnings, violations of the fishing laws are still carried on. The place is difficult to watch.

The River Baie des Anglais is a small stream, which salmon nevertheless ascend. A few were seen in the pools.

Godbout River was as abundantly stocked with salmon as ever. The lessee killed 210 with the fly in the short space of 15 days.

The following is the number of salmon caught with the fly in that stream for the past six years:—

In 1870	390
1871	509
1872	275
1873	130
1874	273
1875	210

MOISIE DIVISION.

G. MATHURIN, *Guardian*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of the fisheries in this division:—

—	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish..... Quintals.	1,830	5,131	5,151	4,030	2,250	3,783	2,414
Salmon, pickled..... Brls.	822	1,104	704	855	146	12	29
do fresh, in ice.. Lbs.					204,000	60,200	102,400
Cod Oil..... Gall.	1,563	2,720	1,935	3,580	1,940	1,700	1,500

Salmon net fishing also suffered in this division on account of the inclemency of the weather. Cod-fishing was not so good as last year, owing to the fish remaining outside. No mackerel were caught. Anglers on Moisie River killed 97 salmon, weighing from 20 to 25 lbs. each. The following is the number of salmon caught with the fly in that stream for the past three years:—

In 1873	281 salmon.
1874	256 do
1875	97 do

MINGAN DIVISION.

DONALD B. MCGIE, *Overseer*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

—	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish..... Quintals.	22,785	50,317	40,361	30,009	16,790	17,283
Herring..... Barrels	3,057	3,431	4,600	4,579	3,710	6,240
Salmon, pickled..... do	727	426	364	217	16	196
do fresh, in ice..... Lbs.				59,489	55,876	3,916
Seals..... Pieces.		5,000	4,242	3,987	5,520	5,002
Cod Oil..... Gallons.	22,006	24,252	7,128	9,247	13,095	21,341
Seal Oil..... do		34,702	28,390	12,570	22,710	21,878

NATASHQUAN DIVISION.

GILBERT BOULET, *Guardian*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

		1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish	Quintals.	4,766	5,794	3,657	3,615	1,250
Herring	Barrels.	114	654	483	420	125
Salmon pickled	do	298	605	150	404	398
do preserved	Lbs.			113,727	50,000	60,000
No. of Seals				1,085	1,213	1,330
Cod Oil	Gallons.	2,118	1,674	1,781	2,494	1,800
Seal Oil	do	18,030	3,891	2,380	2,947	6,820

Salmon fishing was good in the upper part of this division, but poor in the lower part; on the whole the catch is somewhat above that of last year. Cod were very scarce along shore although fishermen report them as plenty outside in the deep water. The catch does not average half that of last year. Herring did not strike at Natashquan; but schooners which went to the French coast of Newfoundland did well. Two parties, Francois Belanger and Charles Rochet, were prosecuted for fishing illegally on the spawning beds of Natashquan River, and fined by Commander Lavoie; the former \$10, and the latter \$5. Their salmon, amounting to four barrels, and their boat, were confiscated.

PENTECOST AND SEVEN ISLANDS DIVISIONS.

F. O. BELANGER, *Guardian*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

		1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish	Quintals	960	1,865	2,150	1,939	309
Herring	Barrels		150		96	10
Mackerel	do	84	200	3	10	
Salmon, pickled	do	44	80	26	31	20
Cod Oil	Gallons	430	1,346	889	545	297
Seal Oil	do			300		570

Seal hunting on the ice opposite Pointe des Monts was successful. Ninety-six seals were killed, yielding 570 gallons of oil. Salmon fishing was poor; so were cod and herring fishing. No mackerel were caught. No foreign vessels were seen fishing in this division. The poor result of the fishery was not due to scarcity of fish; as they were as plentiful as usual. The Overseer thinks that these people do not understand how to fish. They have no mackerel seines, and are not provided with proper nets to catch bait for codfish, such as capelin and launce seines.

WATSHEESHOO DIVISION.

P. GENDREAU, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish.....Quintals.		380	560	110
Salmon.....Barrels.	29	52	33	25
Trout.....do		4	2	2
Seals.....do		809	967	519
Herring.....do			1	329

The decrease in seal fishing is attributed to stormy weather which prevented schooners from moving in the ice. Salmon fishing about equalled that of last year; the fishermen's nets, however, were not in good order, which accounts for the falling off. Herrings were caught at Batchewan in fair quantity. Grand Watsheeshoo River yielded 25 fish to anglers. The fishery laws were well complied with in this division during the whole season.

PACACHOO DIVISION.

J. LEGOUVÉ, *Guardian.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish.....Quintals.	2,655	3,760	844
Halibut.....Barrels.	200		206
Salmon.....do	180	955	37
Trout.....do	8	2	173
Number of Seals.....	1,144	248	500
Cod Oil.....Gallons.	1,574	2,954	1,238
Seal Oil.....do	9,526	1,745	
Whale Oil.....do	400		2,301
Herring.....Barrels.			

Fall seal fishing was a complete failure. This fishery has yearly been decreasing, and seals threaten to entirely abandon the shores of this division. Fishermen attribute this change to the large number of vessels employed in the spring fishery. On the coast of Labrador, fishermen have made up their minds to abandon this fishery; the catch not covering the outlay. Salmon gave fair promises in the spring, but the rain which fell on the 19th July changed these prospects into a failure; all the nets then set being carried away, and several being lost. Salmon do not appear to increase in the rivers of this division. Indians destroy a great many on their breeding grounds whilst ascending the river to hunt.

Herring fishing was a success at Bay des Moutons; 1,400 barrels being caught with two seines belonging to Captains Babbit and Stile. The residents had the advantage of this abundance, thanks to the generosity of these gentlemen, and this was a great relief to them, as destitution would have prevailed had it not have been for that abundance of herring.

Printed notices relating to the size of mesh of cod seines were posted in this division, and during the fishing season this Overseer visited the several fishing vessels and found the law well complied with, and in a satisfactory manner to all parties interested.

BONNE ESPERANCE DIVISION.

W. H. WHITELY, *Guardian*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

		1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish	Quintals.	4,960	7,710	5,062
Salmon	Barrels.	172	136	118
Herring	do	250		
Cod Oil	Gallons.	6,170	5,060	4,357
Seal Oil	do	1,160	2,630	5,660
Whale oil	do			1,500

Full details of the fisheries of this division are given at Appendix No. 3.

ANTICOSTI DIVISION.

A. MALOUIN, } *Guardians*.
E. MARSHALL. }

Full details on the yield of the fisheries in this division will be found in Appendix No. 3.

MAGDALEN ISLAND DIVISION.

J. J. Fox, *Overseer*.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division.

		1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Codfish	Quintals..	20,032	17,048	13,840	13,035
Herring	Barrels..	2,956	4,847	12,137	29,951
Mackerel	do	1,172	5,494	6,569	6,448
Seals	Number.	1,713	5,590	4,555	16,447
Cod Oil	Gallons..	9,306	6,050	7,395	8,527
Seal Oil	do	8,040	19,685	21,915	63,024
Whale Oil	do	2,162			975

Seal hunting on the shore ice was by far the most successful experienced for several years past. The east and north-east winds, which prevailed during February and March, carried the whelping ice round the shores of the Islands; they were

covered with immense shoals of seals, and they came so near shore that in several instances the hunters took their horses and sleds upon the ice and loaded them with seals. The inhabitants captured 14,513 young seals. Thirteen vessels fitted out for seal hunting in the Gulf, and returned without accident; but met with poor success, owing to the unfavourable position of the ice. Only 1,731 seals were killed. The sedentary seal fishery was also unsuccessful, the shores being blocked with heavy ice; 203 seals only were caught, although 180 nets were set round the Islands. The total number of seals killed was 16,447 against 5,555 in 1874—an increase of 11,892. They also yielded 63,024 gallons of oil against 21,915 last season.

Owing to the large quantity of floating ice in the Gulf this spring, the herring fleet arrived only on the 12th May, herring having struck in a few days before. One steamer and thirty-six schooners were engaged in this fishery, besides the boats belonging to the Islands. The quantity of fish caught amounted to 29,951 barrels, showing an increase of 17,814 barrels on last year's catch. Herring did not spawn in the bays as usual.

The spring mackerel net-fishery commenced on the 8th June, and closed on the 30th. Twelve schooners from Nova Scotia were engaged in this fishery, besides the boats of the residents. The result was not favourable, mackerel being scarce and not striking in as large numbers as usual. Mackerel as well as herring did not as usual spawn in the bays last spring; this may be due to the coldness of the water and the quantity of floating ice around the Islands. Summer boat fishing was very good, owing to the fish keeping close in shore and out of reach of schooners. This fishery did not begin as early as usual, few fish making their appearance before the 27th July; but it continued until the middle of October. The yield of mackerel was as follows:—Spring fishery, 1,733 brls.; summer fishery, 4,715 brls.—total, 6,448 brls., or 121 barrels less than last year.

Summer cod-fishing was on a whole nearly equal to that of last year. The catch by schooners was a failure, fifteen having gone to Labrador, and returned with only 1,822 cwt. of fish. The boat fishery, however, was good; fish were abundant—and there being plenty of mackerel, no scarcity of bait felt. Fall cod-fishing was poor. The total yield was 13,035 quintals, against 13,840 last year. Codfish yielded a larger quantity of oil than last season—that is to say, 8,527 gallons against 7,395.

The quantity and value of fish used for home consumption may be estimated as follows:—

Herrings.....	2,500 brls.	Value.....	\$2,500 00
Mackerel.....	200 “	“	2,000 00
Halibut	20 “	“	100 00
Codfish	400 qntls.	“	1,400 00
			<hr/>
			\$6,000 00

The chief article of food of fishermen during the cod-fishing season is the heads, tongue and sound, with what halibut they may chance to catch.

There was but one complaint of violation of the fishery laws during the present season. It was brought against an American crew for fishing near Entry Island, where they had set trawls or bultow lines within three miles of the Island. On being notified that this practice was against the law, they raised their trawls and took them further off shore.

ST. FRANCIS DIVISION.

W. C. WILLIS, *Overseer.*

The catch of salmon in this division did not amount to half that of last year, only 53 being killed. The fish were, however, seen in great numbers ascending the river. A large quantity of fry was noticed in Salmon River. The Local Guardian at Scottstown reports that no fish were taken in that neighbourhood during the whole of

last season. An efficient fishway was built by Mr. Scott in his mill-dam at this place. Lake fishing was tolerably good, but not carried on to any great extent. The catch is estimated as follows:—

Salmon—No. of lbs	1874. 2,400	1875. 795
No. of brls. of Lunge.....	250	250

Illegal fishing is sensibly decreasing, those holding licenses being interested in the protection of fish and preventing poachers from carrying on their nefarious practices.

SPECIAL REPORT ON LAKE MEMPHREMAGOG DIVISION.

W. H. AUSTIN, ESQ., *Fishery Overseer.*

Having completed the duty on which you were pleased to detach me, in command of a party of police and special constables, for the protection of the fisheries in Lake Memphremagog and vicinity, I have the honour to submit the following report of my proceedings:—

“Upon reaching the Lake, early in the month of October, I found the mountains capped with snow, and many other indications of rapidly advancing winter. The steamers, also, that I had been led to believe in Montreal as still running, I found had been laid up several days, and consequently my journey was considerably lengthened, as I had to proceed *via* Stanstead.

“Having conferred with the parties to whom you directed me, it became apparent that the only plan to procure effectual protection was to place at least three guard boats on the Lake, dividing the twenty-four miles in British territory into three portions, thus giving to each boat sixteen miles of coast line.

“On all previous occasions ill-disposed persons had regularly kept a watch on the protective officers, and the moment their boat went down the Lake, or *vice versa*, they, with everything previously ready, lighted up their fires and killed many fish before being interrupted. It was therefore to be hoped that with the arrangements now proposed the possibility of infractions of the law would be much lessened, if not entirely prevented.

“The boats were severally manned with a Police Officer of the Government force from Quebec, and two men from the locality as special constables. They were instructed never to use force except in self-defence, to arrest and take possession of all boats illegally fishing, together with all implements used, and to identify all parties so detected, landing them at the nearest point; but with the further view of their being summoned to appear before me to answer the complaint made against them. They were also ordered to proceed on duty every evening two hours before sunset, to enable the settlers to observe that they were on their respective posts, and to remain upon the Lake until after daylight the morning following; further, they were supplied with grapnels, and directed to drag for nets in every shoal frequented by the spawning “lunge” once every night, and frequently oftener. The intelligence that your Department had taken these steps rapidly circulated. The local press further spread the information; and although we heard of many threats of resistance among a certain class, the public spirit of the community spoke strongly in our favour.

“Thus prepared we entered upon the close season; the first night passing off quietly. On the 16th, however, in the darkness, a boat filled with spearing wood and having a spear and jack on board actually ran along side the upper guard boat drawn up in concealment among the bushes, near the boundary line. The boat, old and worthless, contained a man and lad; all implements were confiscated, but no further proceedings taken. On the same night the lower guard boat took a gill net, set on the Island shoals—and on the 21st the same boat took another on the west shoals. On the 26th, the boat of William Hewson was seized, while trolling near

Gibraltar Point, on which occasion he cut off his spoon and hooks and concealed or threw them overboard. On the morning of the 27th October, a boat with a man named Wm. Sheppard on board, was seized on a like charge. On the 2nd November, the crew of the centre guard boat were arrested on a warrant issued by a Bolton magistrate under complaint of William Hewson, for theft of his boat. The case was hurried to a trial within two hours, and my application for a postponement met with no attention. Great feeling was manifested against the Government party, finally the case was deferred until the 5th, and in the meantime having received instructions, I placed myself in personal communication with the Crown Counsel at Sherbrooke, who attended the trial on the 5th, but the only witness examined was myself. My evidence settled the case, which was dismissed, saddling the complainant, as I afterwards heard, with forty dollars costs. The arrest of the boats' crew, under Hewson's complaint—although at the moment vexatious and annoying—was undoubtedly productive of beneficial results. On the 1st November, the fish having left the shoals, I paid off the crew, and a day or two after removed a man to Magog, making him take the oar of a special constable whom I then discharged. On the 30th October, the crew of the lower guard boat, who had long been on the watch for a notorious poacher called Daniel Peters, when concealed on the borders of the lake, saw this man taking fish on the trout shoals. On being hailed, he attempted to escape, chase being given resulted in Peters reaching the opposite coast first and disappearing with his fish and tackle; but the officers seized the boat, and upon my taking a summary of the evidence, I determined to bring him to trial.—Acting under your instructions lunge were caught in seines, conveyed to shores in a boat filled with water, frequently renewed, and on arrival placed in a tank, and drawn by a pair of horses to Libby and Nick Ponds, in the Township of Bolton. These waters were thus successfully stocked with splendid fish. On any future occasion, the same means being adopted, many barren waters could readily be replenished. Snow fell on the 30th October in the neighbourhood, and never disappeared; ice formed on all small ponds and lakes, and winter falling at so early a moment, appeared to have its effect on the spawning lunge. The shoals which a short time before had been covered with fish in great numbers, gradually thinned, until about the 12th or 14th of November; only a few stray fish could then be seen. The season having closed, I duly acquainted you with the fact and received orders to prepare for departure.

"That our occupation was attended with an amount of success hardly to be anticipated, is a matter for congratulation; not one single light being seen on the waters during our stay. Such an event was never before known, and the three nets captured probably represented nearly, if not all, that had been set. In like manner, the three trollers, representatives of a class that had for years held almost undisputed sway, were probably solitary offenders in their infraction of the law.

"I do not seek to conceal from you, that whilst the great majority of the inhabitants are law-abiding citizens, there nevertheless exists a strong element of a totally different character; a class rude and difficult to deal with, and only to be subdued by a show of force. Further, the two cases of Hewson and Peters were warmly espoused by a party at either end of the Lake, who promised funds to 'fight the Government.' Their cases then became as it were test cases, and assumed a significance they would not otherwise have enjoyed. The Crown Council strongly advised me not to try the prisoners in the vicinity of the Lake, being convinced that I would not ensure a conviction, and pointing out in illustration that, with undoubted testimony, he had signally failed in eighteen cases on a previous occasion. Such advice I could not neglect, and therefore decided they should be tried at Sherbrooke. A difficulty for the moment appeared from this gentleman being of opinion that my jurisdiction did not extend to that town; it was therefore decided that the cases should be tried by the District Magistrate, Mr. Rioux. The trials were long and tedious, lasting two and a half days; the prisoners being defended by able counsel and bringing forward a mass of testimony. Their lawyer, in his address, stated that our duty was a most unpopular one, that the inhabitants looked upon the fish in their Lake as

free to them as the air they breathed, and added he could easily collect a hundred men in the county, who would gladly join in throwing us all into the Lake. The prisoners were both found guilty—Hewson sentenced to a fine of \$10 and costs or 30 days jail. Peters also received a like sentence, and from choice took the imprisonment. The two boats confiscated are new and in fine order.

“My duty being thus completed, and having received your orders to return home, I left Sherbrooke with the men of the Government Police, who, on reaching Richmond, proceeded to Quebec while I continued my journey to Chambly.

“In concluding my Report, I can truly say, to quote the words of my instructions that I ‘spared neither trouble or pains to achieve success,’ and I venture to hope the result may meet with your approbation.”

Mr. Austin adds, as a curious fact that, although there are four different kinds of trout frequenting Lake Memphremagog,—Silver, Black, Copper and White Trout,—they are almost always found together on the spawning beds.

RICHELIEU DIVISION.

H. W. AUSTIN, *Overseer.*

The yield of fisheries in this division is computed as follows:—

District.	Value of Fishing Boats.	Value of Eel Fisheries.	No. of Shad.	No. of brls. of Sturgeon.	No. of doz. of Whitefish.	No. of Eels.	No. of bushel of Tom Cod.	No. of brls. of Mixed Fish.
District of Three Rivers.....	6,500	.....	40,500	4	800	30,050	20,400	6,050
do Montreal.....	4,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,000	.....	2,400
do Richelieu.....	14,500	1,000	.....	.....	.....	20,000	.....	9,000
do Beauharnois.....	1,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,300

The fishing season in this division was remarkably good, a remarkable increase in Pickerel (*doré*) being especially noticeable.

Very few persons have any idea of the large quantity of shad or *laquaiche* brought upon the Montreal markets by fishermen from Sorel. This delicious fish are sold for fifteen cents a couple, that is to say, about one cent a pound. As many as 200 shads were caught in one haul of the seine. From this statement one may judge of the enormous abundance of these fish. Fishing lasts until the end of June, and is a real godsend for fishermen and resident population. Shad are also salted and smoked.

Sturgeon were also abundant. One of these fish weighed 113 pounds.

Bass is the only kind of fish which seems to become rather scarce, but the new regulations respecting close seasons will, it is hoped, have a beneficial effect and change this state of things.

IBERVILLE DIVISION.

J. B. CHEVALIER, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of fisheries in this division for the last two years:—

	1874.	1875.
Number of eels	16,293	31,627
do of brls. of mixed fish.....	146	378
Total Value.....	\$2,213.30	\$4,674.30

The increase in eel fishing is due to high waters, which allowed fishermen to set earlier than usual. The fishery laws were well complied with in this division during the season.

MISSISQUOI BAY DIVISION.

P. E. LUKE, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield of the fisheries in this division for the two past years:—

	1874.	1875.
Value of boats	\$913	\$889
Number of shad	3,870	6,620
do barrels pickerel	186	84
do do sturgeon.....	1	
do maskinongé.....	300	
do barrels of mixed fish.....	562	106
Total Value	\$2,620.00	\$2,032.00

The decrease in the total yield of the fisheries in this division is attributed to the change in the close season.

CHATEAUGUAY DIVISION.

WILLIAM CLYDE, }
ANDREW WATT, } *Overseers.*

Fishing in this division was good, and the great demand for fish of all kinds has so increased as to induce traders from Montreal to buy from fishermen at high prices. The catch may be valued as follows:—

Mixed fish for home consumption 300 barrels.
do for Montreal market..... 600 do

ARGENTEUIL DIVISION.

ALEXANDER BEATON, *Overseer.*

This division comprises the inland waters in rear of the County of Argenteuil. Fish are not caught in this division for purposes of trade and commerce; unfortunately the lakes were regularly plundered and illegally fished by poachers and so-called sportsmen. Since the appointment of a resident Fishery Overseer this state of things has happily changed.

The following persons were prosecuted and fined for fishing trout in Lake Barron during the close season:—

Col. Thomas Bacon,	fined	\$2.00	and	\$17.50	costs.
Samuel McDonald,	do	2.00	do	8.94	do
John Wainwright,	do	2.00	do	7.84	do

TERREBONNE DIVISION.

L. J. LORANGER, *Overseer.*

Complaints of illegal fishing in the lakes of Terrebonne and Joliette were so numerous that this Overseer had to be called sharply to a sense of his duties by the Department. Mr. Loranger then brought the following prosecutions for illegal trout fishing during the close season:—

Noe Touchette,	fined	\$16.00	and	\$2.05	costs.
Adolphe Marier,	do	16.00	do	2.05	do
Calixte Legault,	do	16.00	do	2.05	do
Magloire Longpre,	do	16.00	do	2.00	do
Leon Plouffe,	do	16.00	do	2.90	do
L. A. Filiatrault,	do	16.00	do	2.00	do
Félix Lafleur,	do	16.00	do	7.55	do
Jos. Charbonneau,	do	16.00	do	4.70	do
Leon Plouffe,	do	16.00	do	4.05	do
Jean M. Campeau,	do	16.00	do	2.05	do
A. Marier,	do	16.00	do	2.00	do

OTTAWA COUNTY DIVISION.

This division was guarded during the present season by special constables detached from the Dominion Police Force and local Fishery Guardians located at the most central places. The duties were well performed, and the protection was as efficient as could be expected from the large area of waters to guard. Parties fishing with nets for purposes of trade and commerce, either in the Ottawa River or in the lakes, are compelled to provide themselves with licenses to do so. These are issued to them free of charge—most of the parties being poor people whom the hard times and decline in lumbering operations had thrown out of employment. This system works well, and

these people being provided with the necessary legal authority to fish, are of great assistance to the Department, as they look with a jealous eye upon parties who fish without license, and thus become as it were interested guardians. No less than 160 licenses were thus issued during the present season.

The following prosecutions were brought against parties fishing illegally:—

B. Marteau.....	1	gill-net seized, fishing without license.	
Jas. McEVENNA ...	1	do	mesh of net too small.
—Leclerc	1	do	fishing without license.
Owner unknown..	2	do	do
Victor Paquet....	3	do	do
George Girard ...	5	do	do
Joseph Dubé	2	do	do
Jean Martin.....	3	do	barring stream.

William Higley was fined \$10 and \$23 costs, and had about 200 lbs. fish confiscated, for fishing illegally in lakes back of Buckingham.

Seventy-eight licenses were granted to residents for the privilege of fishing in lakes of this division, and eighty-two licenses were also granted for spring and summer fishing in the Ottawa River.

APPENDIX No. 10.

SCHEDULE of Salmon Angling in the leased Rivers of the Provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick, during the season of 1875.

Name of River.	No. of Salmon.	Average weight in pounds.	Remarks.
Du Gouffre	1	15	Angled only one day.
Ste. Margaret, N.E. Branch.....	55	13	} Weather unfavourable. River too high. most of the time.
do N.W. do	77	13	
A. Mars	28	15	Largest fish, 18 pounds. River being re-stocked; fly-fishing curtailed, in consequence.
Little Saguenay	39	14	Largest fish, 20 pounds. do 43 pounds.
Anse St. Jean.....	31	14	
Godbout.....	210	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	Largest fish, 20 pounds. do 43 pounds.
Romaine.....	105	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Mingan.....	104		Not angled. River unlet. Largest fish, 18 pounds.
Moisie	97	25	
Natashquan.....			do 26 do
Watsheeshoo	26	10	
Rimouski.....	27	14 $\frac{1}{4}$	do 31 do
Metis.....	36	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	do 27 do
Matane.....	62	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	do 8 do
Little S.W. Bic.....	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	do 42 do
Ste. Anne des Monts.....	69	17	do 20 do
Magdalen.....	8	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	do 35 do
York.....	98	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	do 29 do
St. John.....	36	12	do 28 do and five grilse.
Dartmouth.....	66	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	Not angled. River unlet.
Grand.....	144	13	do do
Grand Pabos			Largest fish, 35 pounds.
Little Pabos.....			
Bonaventure.....	26	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	do 32 do
L. Cascapedia	4	22	Also 19 grilse.
G. Cascapedia.....	269	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Matapedia	73	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Upsalquitch	97	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Restigouche, Middle Division...	221	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Restigouche, Upper Division...	84	19	
Restigouche, Lower Division ...	96	18	
PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.			
Jacquet.....	19	7	Largest fish, 9 pounds.
S. W. Miramichi	218	18	do 22 do
Nepisiguit.....	294	15	31 grilse. Eight rods on the river this season against sixteen last year.

APPENDIX No. II.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES FOR NOVA SCOTIA,
FOR THE YEAR 1875.

To the Hon. A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa.

* HALIFAX, 31st December, 1875.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report upon the fisheries of the Province of Nova Scotia for the current year.

The accompanying table, exhibiting the products of the various branches of those fisheries during the year, shows a falling off in the aggregate result as compared with that of 1874. There has not, however, been a corresponding depression in the fishing interests. Owing to the high prices of nearly all fishery products, the falling off mentioned has been less in the value than in the quantity of the fish actually taken.

Doubtless any such table as this, prepared with such means of obtaining information as we now possess, falls short of the whole product of our fisheries. This remark applies more especially to the case of those fish caught in the fresh water. In a country like this, where every stream is frequented in numbers, greater or less, by fish of commercial value, and where almost every man and boy is to a certain extent fisherman or sportsman, there must be a large number of such fish caught, of which we do not, and scarcely can obtain any account.

Being under the necessity of repairing to Ottawa soon after my appointment as Inspector of Fisheries for Nova Scotia, to receive more full and complete instructions from the Head of the Department, the fishing season was already well advanced before I was enabled to enter upon the more active and practical duties of my office. To be able to discharge those duties consistently and with effect and method, it was necessary that, after my return, I should make myself thoroughly conversant with them, not merely as they bore upon special and perhaps localized cases which might immediately be laid hold upon, but as a whole to inform myself of the existing state of the fisheries of the whole Province; to become acquainted with the fishery officers with whom I had to act; and to learn what was possible of that portion of the public with whom I should be brought more directly into contact. With these objects I set out about the first of June to visit as much of the coast and streams of the country as it would be possible for me, consistent with the discharge of other and pressing duties, to see during the fishing season. Thus I visited thirteen of the eighteen counties of the Province. Antigonish I did not see at all, and Annapolis only partially, because I was not in possession of the new regulations applicable to either of those counties; and circumstances preventing my going to Guysboro', Richmond and Cape Breton, until the inland fishing was over, and the streams excessively swollen by the autumnal rains, I thought it best to defer a thorough inspection of them until a future season.

Of course it is notorious that the fisheries of Nova Scotia do not yield that abundance which they did in the earlier stages of the country's history; and that their deterioration has been owing to two causes:—improvident and needlessly destructive fishing, and the placing of obstructions in streams which prevent the fish passing to and from their spawning beds. To prevent both, laws have been enacted, and regulations having the force of law have been framed. As to the question of enforcing the latter during this past year, I must observe that the fishery

season was well advanced—in some districts half expired—before the new regulations were promulgated; and fishermen had entered upon their year's operations, not anticipating any change in the regulations to which they had previously been subject. Consequently, to have insisted in every instance upon enforcing these regulations with extreme rigor, would often have entailed real hardship and serious loss to the fishermen; whilst in some cases, indeed, I should have found their rigid enforcement quite impracticable under all the circumstances. The law was enforced whenever possible, and the necessity for strict future conformity with it was enjoined.

I may here say in general terms, that so far as I can judge from one year's limited experience, there seems to be a growing disposition on the part of the fishermen to comply with the requirements of the law when made known to them. Of course there are still to be met with too many instances of violations of that law through ignorance or trickery, and sometimes in open defiance of it. I have myself taken every pains, whilst enjoining it upon fishery officers generally to do likewise, to impress upon the fishing population a sense of the importance to their own special interests, beyond those of all the rest of the community, of their complying strictly with the law, and becoming themselves the most active agents in the protection of the fisheries.

What I have said of the disposition of the fishermen will also apply, although I fear with somewhat less force, to the proprietors of mill and other dams upon the various fishing streams of the Province. Among this class I regret to have to say that the greatest and worst transgressors are the very men to whom one would naturally look for a good example to the rest of the community—men who assert a position of wealth and high social standing, or who are largely engaged in manufacturing and commercial pursuits. These transgressors assume that from the influence of their position they can over-ride the law with impunity. Their example has a most pernicious effect upon others who, were it not for such example, would, there is reason to believe, conform to the requirements of the law without the application of coercive measures.

The aggregate amount received for fines and forfeitures, as shown by the returns, would represent but a small number of violations of the law. I do not suppose that even the whole number of prosecutions, from some of which no fines have yet been realized, indicates all the instances where the law has been transgressed; but doubtless they afford an approximation to their number. A large majority of the overseers report "no violations" of the law in their respective districts. From the violations so reported on, I must except the deposition of saw-dust in navigable waters, and those frequented by fish. I am not aware that previous to this past year any vigorous effort had been made to enforce that provision of the *Fisheries Act* which forbids mill-owners disposing of their sawdust in what has heretofore been the usual way. Consequently I found in the course of my tours of inspection that the custom of casting afloat the sawdust and other rubbish made by sawmills and woodenware factories was all but universal throughout the Province. I have taken every pains to make known to all concerned that this provision of the Act must be promptly and rigidly observed. It was certainly time that it should be; for many of our formerly best fishing streams, and some navigable waters from the use of which the public derived great practical benefit, have already been almost hopelessly ruined, whilst the fisheries and navigable properties of others are being rapidly destroyed from this cause. In most instances, mill-owners have expressed, not always without complaint of what they call the "hardship," their readiness to comply with the warnings given them, asking only, in some cases, time to make arrangements, when alterations in their buildings and other provisions involving expense were necessary. In some instances, however, they have persisted in acting in contravention to the law, and have even set authority at open defiance.

In what relates to the artificial obstructions of fish streams, I may say, in general terms, that much yet remains to be done before a certainty can be obtained that the fish in all such streams have a quite uninterrupted passage to and from their spawning beds. I have found that some of the fishways were very imperfect, or entirely

different from the approved model; others, injudiciously located; others again affording grounds to suspect that they were habitually closed when the fishery officers' back was turned, and the reservation of the water in the mill pond was an object; whilst in too many dams, constructed quite across stream, there was no pretence of a fishway whatever. I find the impression to be general that a fishway must be in the form known as a "fish-ladder." In many, especially of our larger streams, where dams exist, it would be quite practicable, without materially lessening the value of the mill privilege, to have a part of the main stream unobstructed, or to have an open channel made around the dam, thus securing at all times an unquestionably free passage for the fish. Considering the difficulties above referred to in enforcing the construction and proper maintenance of efficient fish-ladders, I would respectfully suggest that it would be better, *in all cases*, to insist upon a part of the stream being left open, or a by-channel being constructed where possible, without destroying the water-power required for the mill.

The following more detailed local account represents briefly the condition and prospects of the fisheries in the various counties:—

COUNTY OF HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, the metropolitan and the largest county in the Province, takes also the first rank with respect to its fisheries. The product of those fisheries, however, shows a very considerable diminution of the yield of 1874. There has been a pretty good catch of codfish, but very much of failure has attended the salmon, mackerel and herring fisheries. This falling off is attributed to the extremely unfavourable weather during a great part of the fishing season. To the the same cause is attributed a like falling off in the fishery products of all shore counties to the westward of Halifax and as far as Digby.

I am sorry to have to say that there have been in this county during the year, more violations and attempted violations and evasions of the fishery laws than in any other county in the Province—indeed more, I believe, than have come to my knowledge in all the others combined. I learned early in June that Indian River, Ingraham River and Hubbard's Cove River, three important fishing streams emptying into the St. Margarets Bay, had been rendered utterly impassable to fish through the construction of a number of mill-dams and driving-dams. When the proprietors of these obstructions were warned of the necessity of providing suitable fishways in their dams, and also to desist from casting saw-dust adrift, which was being done on a large scale, some of them openly defied the law and the fishery officers, whilst others more quietly persisted in giving no heed to them. Hence ensued a series of prosecutions which, except in the case of one party who gave a confession, still remain unconcluded.

The fisheries of St. Margaret's Bay, once famed for their productiveness, now yield almost nothing and must soon cease to exist if the fisheries of the rivers just named, now all but ruined, are not resuscitated; for the fishes which used to ascend these rivers to spawn, besides their value in themselves as food for men, also furnished food to the exclusively sea-fish of the coast, and attracted them to the waters of the neighbouring bay. According to the recent decision of a majority of Judges who happened to be sitting at the time in the Supreme Court, although not, it is understood of the whole Bench, any transgressor may appeal from the judgment of a fishery officer or Justice of the Peace to the Supreme Court, and there effect a delay of the final decision for many months. At this rate of procedure one may almost despair of resuscitating any river fishery; for the value of these delays to the refractory mill-owner and his interest in creating and prolonging them, must be considered. He may, it is true, have to incur damages and costs in the long run; but, however appalling this may be to a poor man, or to one carrying on only a small business, there are others to whom, under the now received interpretation of the existing law, it will actually pay to risk all the penalty, and still go on transgressing.

In the Eastern District of Halifax there has been much poaching, more especially

upon the Musquodoboit, where it has been carried on to an extent which must soon prove ruinous to this deservedly celebrated fish stream if not suppressed. Numerous convictions of the guilty parties have been made, but some additional Wardens will be indispensable before the evil can be effectually kept down. This is a very large, and, as far as fisheries are concerned, comprehensive District, and it is at present inadequately supplied with Wardens. A superior fish-ladder has been constructed at Moses River in place of a former inefficient one which had to be removed. Mr. Anderson, the Overseer, who is familiarly acquainted with every part of this Eastern District and with its requirements, has recommended a number of additions to the local regulations in which I entirely concur, their adoption being essential to the promotion of the fishing interests. It is suggested then, that instead of the second clause of the present regulations for Halifax County, the following be adopted:—

“ 2. No nets or other apparatus for taking fish shall be placed between Leslie’s Mill, on the Ecum Secum, and the bridge on the main road, or below said bridge within two hundred yards thereof; within one-eighth of a mile of the Little Dam at Moses River in any place above the north corner of the Lobster Factory wharf, in Salmon River East; within two hundred yards of the mouth of Murphy’s Brook, or East Middle or West River, Sheet Harbour; anywhere in the small lake below Mooseland Saw Mills, or above the north side of George Ferguson’s wharf, Tangeir; within three hundred yards of Ship Harbour lower mill-dam, or the mouth of Newcomb’s Brook; within a quarter of a mile of Sibley’s Mill, Jeddore; anywhere above the south or lower end of the mill wharf, Musquodoboit Harbour; within two hundred yards of the head of the tide at low water in the mouth of Petpiswick River; within two hundred yards of the head of the tide at low water in the mouth of Chezzetcook River; within a quarter of a mile outside, or two hundred yards inside of Porter’s Lake Run; anywhere in the Run outside of Lawrencetown Dyke, or within two hundred yards of the inside of the same; within three hundred yards of the Cole Harbour Road Bridge on Salmon River West; within three hundred yards of the lower bridge at the mouth of Sackville River; or within two hundred yards of the head of the tide at low water in the mouths of Moses, Indian, Ingraham, or Hubbard’s Cove Rivers, St. Margaret’s Bay. This prohibition is not to extend to surface fly-fishing.”

COUNTY OF LUNENBURG.

LUNENBURG, both East and West, shows a falling off in the products of the in-shore fisheries—in the latter district alone of about fifty thousand dollars—although the deficiency has been made up in a great measure by the successes of the deep-sea and Labrador fishermen. Generally speaking, the rivers of this county are free from obstructions. That is, where these are dams, there are fish-ways; but here, as elsewhere in the Province, I find that the widest diversity of opinion prevails as to the efficiency of the least objectionable fish-ladders. It is highly probable that the disbelievers in their efficiency have, in their calculations of the number of migratory fish in any given stream, entirely ignored the deleterious effect of saw-dust and other rubbish cast into its waters. A satisfactory fish-way has been placed in the Mushamush River. The obstruction in Petite Riviere has been satisfactorily removed through the expenditure of a small grant appropriated by the Department for that purpose; and that river is now in good condition. It is reported to me that there is an obstruction, produced by natural causes and the accumulation of drift stuff, on Middle River (branch) which it is very desirable to have removed. I think it highly necessary that some modification should be made in the local regulations so far as concerns Gold River which, once one of the most celebrated salmon streams in the Dominion, has become pretty nearly non-productive through being over-fished. The regulations permit the setting of nets as far up the estuary of this river as a point one-eighth of a mile from the head of the tide at low water, and one-eighth of a mile from each other. As the estuary of this stream continues very narrow for some distance below the head of the tide, the number of nets which are thus set out from both

shores arrest nearly every fish which attempts to make its way up stream. I would urge, as a very essential improvement in the regulations, that in this estuary no net be set "within *half a mile* of the head of the tide at low water."

More than half the deficit in the fishery returns of this county for the year as compared with last year, is represented by the falling off in the yield of the lobster fishery. On this subject I shall have to make a special reference further on in this report.

COUNTY OF QUEEN'S

In QUEEN'S COUNTY the fishery has not been a success this year; although the Overseer believes that there are good indications for the future, as large numbers of fish, both salmon and alewives, are known to have passed up the various streams to their spawning grounds during the earlier part of the season; whilst the young of the latter were seen in quantity coming down stream in the autumn months. Fish-ways generally in this county are in a satisfactory condition, except some of those upon the Mersey, which require improvement. Some refractoriness has been manifested in response to the demands to make such improvements. Many of the mill owners here, like a large proportion of those elsewhere in the Province, seem to think that when once a fish-ladder is put into a dam, *under the eye of a fishery officer*, he, the proprietor of the dam, may from that time forth wash his hands of responsibility in the matter, whether or not the fishway is ill-constructed, ill-placed, is obstructed, or gets out of repair. It is difficult to impress upon them sometimes that the builder or occupier of the dam or slide, is bound to keep "a durable and efficient fish-way" therein, and that he cannot shift to any other shoulders the responsibility of so doing.

COUNTY OF SHELBURNE.

In SHELBURNE there has been a falling off in some branches of the fishery Salmon have been scarce, and the herring fishery a failure, but there has been a large increase in haddocks, whilst the catch of cod and other deep-sea fish has been an average one. Generally the rivers of this country which have dams across them are well provided with fish-ways. The Clyde River is an exception. Here, where there is a large milling establishment having a dam right across the river, all the attempts at fish-ways heretofore made have proved failures. It would be quite practicable and at a moderate expense to direct an open channel around this dam. There are some natural difficulties in the way of otherwise keeping up a fish-way. There is need of an additional Warden in this district at Grand Lake on the Barrington River.

COUNTY OF YARMOUTH.

In YARMOUTH COUNTY I found a generally satisfactory state of affairs, so far as the obstructions to the migrations of fish are to be considered, except in the case of one dam across the Carleton branch of the Tusket River. Here there was a pretence of a fish-ladder, but it was a very inefficient one. I myself saw large numbers of alewives in the river at the foot of the ladder, but none passing through it. Any which made the attempt were dashed violently back owing to the high angle at which the ladder was placed and the great force of the current passing through it. This case was promptly dealt with by the Overseer who accompanied me during my visit to the spot.

It may be here remarked that the upper waters of the Tusket and its tributaries take their rise in the backwoods of Digby County. I am assured that several driving "dams" have been placed by lumbermen across these streams. These dams are quite too much out of the way to be looked after by the Overseers and Wardens of Digby County unless at a very heavy expense. I would therefore recommend that all these upper waters of the Tusket and its tributaries be placed under the jurisdiction of the Yarmouth fishery officers.

COUNTY OF DIGBY.

In DIGBY COUNTY I have also to report the result of the year's fishing as less favourable than usual. The herring fishery, usually one of the most profitable in this county, may even be counted a comparative failure. On the other hand the salmon and shad fisheries of St. Mary's Bay have improved, whilst the indications of a revival of the mackerel fishery in the same waters are cheering. The great falling off in the product of the herring fishery of Digby Basin is attributable by the Overseer of that district—and I think there is no doubt of his correctness—mainly to the large quantities of saw-dust which are brought down into the waters of that Basin from the mills upon the Imbert (Bear River). In Annapolis Basin the herring have been very abundant, whilst in that of Digby, separated only by Goat Island, but quite out of the tideway to and from the River Imbert, that fishery has been an utter failure. Mr. Morehouse, the Overseer, has been making vigorous efforts, under difficulties, to remedy this evil state of affairs, but the laws' delays may lead to the irretrievable ruin of the Digby herring fisheries.

COUNTY OF ANNAPOLIS.

The returns from ANNAPOLIS show an improvement both in the coast fisheries and those of more inland sections. In Annapolis Basin, already mentioned, the catch of herring was greater than it has been for many years past. The Annapolis River is reported to me as having been to all appearance well stocked with salmon, bass and shad, although little effort was made by the inhabitants of the vicinity to capture them. Early in the season a dam on the upper part of the course of this river is believed to have been an obstacle to the passage of fish, but this difficulty has been removed, and I am assured that there are now good fish-ways wherever requisite throughout the country.

COUNTY OF KINGS.

KINGS COUNTY also shows a material improvement over last year. This is evident not only in the product of the fisheries, but both Overseers report a notably improved disposition on the part of those engaged in them to conform to the requirements of the law. The river produce of salmon here, as in most other parts of the Province, and indeed the shad fishery, show a falling off compared with former years, but on all other fish usually produced by this county, the yield has been good, whilst so great an abundance of gasperaux, in the river of that name, has not been known before for many years. It is the opinion of those residing in the vicinity, who have taken special pains to inform themselves in the matter, the Overseer of the district included, that few, or none of these fish have succeeded in passing what has been known as "Calder's Mills." Above that point the numerous obstructions which had previously been in the river were removed by the Overseer, Mr. Bishop, during the year, leaving a clear passage for the fish, thence to the lakes at the head of the river; but in the dam at the mills just mentioned, there was a fish-ladder. When I was at the spot about the end of September, this fish-ladder was five or six feet at either end above the level of the nearest water. It was quite practicable, by a slight extension of a wing-dam already existing to throw open one-third in width of the river channel itself. A gentleman who had just become principally interested in these mills expressed his willingness to do this, and I directed it to be done. When effected there will at last be an unobstructed passage for fish throughout the whole course of this important river.

COUNTY OF HANTS.

HANTS COUNTY shows an increased product from the fisheries of the Bay and the Shubenacadie River; but the reverse has been the case in the less considerable rivers of the western section of the county, owing probably in part to the unusual drought of the season. In two mill-dams upon the Meander and one upon the Hebert, I

found when visiting them early in October, as at Gasperaux River, fish-ladders which were quite high and dry out of water, and had been so for months. As the nature of the ground presented facilities for such a procedure, I directed a free channel, which would be a perpetual fish-way, to be opened past the dam at each of these localities, the mill owners themselves readily consenting to do this. At another dam further up the Hebert, where the ground did not admit of such an open channel being made, but where there was no fish-way at all, I directed a ladder to be immediately put in. I am not aware of any other localities in this county where artificial fish-ways are required. No convictions are reported to me. At the same time I must remark that no Warden has yet been appointed on the upper Shubenacadie, where in former years poaching was largely indulged in. I fear that the public interests have suffered in consequence.

COUNTY OF COLCHESTER.

All the districts of COLCHESTER show a falling off in the yield of fish, although in those which migrate between salt and fresh water, this county is still one of the largest producers. In the northern, or Sterling district, the fishing interests make but a small figure; whilst the catch of salmon, which was there formerly something considerable, has dwindled almost to nothing, owing, in a great measure, to the close season beginning under the amended Act a month earlier than formerly. There still remains some work to be completed for the effectual re-opening of Green's Creek, which, although of no great length, was formerly one of the most productive Gasperaux streams in the Province. There is a serious omission in the regulations for this county, which I think must have been an inadvertance in framing them. "No drifting for shad shall be allowed above Salter's Head in the Shubenacadie River from the first day of June to the thirtieth day of September," as set out in the Hants Regulations. Yet there is nothing to prevent drifting in Cobequid Bay above the mouth of the Shubenacadie. So far as the fisheries are concerned, the two—which are like twin branches of the same arm of the sea—are circumstanced almost exactly alike. If there is any difference, it is even more important to prevent drifting in the "bay" than in the river—I would therefore respectfully, but urgently suggest that instead of having the above quoted words in the Hants Regulations, there be inserted in those for Colchester:—"No drifting for shad shall be allowed in Shubenacadie River, or in Cobequid Bay, inside of a straight line drawn from Salter's Head to the nearest point upon Little Dyke, in Londonderry."

COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

CUMBERLAND has, everything considered, about maintained the product of last year, although as in the Sterling district of Colchester, and indeed in all the streams flowing into the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, there has been a falling off in the catch of salmon owing to the earlier commencement of the close season. There has been a large amount of illegal fishing perpetrated, or at least attempted, upon River Philip, which the fishery officers have been making vigorous attempts to prevent. The setting of night watches has been requisite in some instances, and transgressors have been dealt with as the law directs. The Overseer of the western district of this county reports no prosecutions; but he complains of the difficulty of getting people to give evidence to convict their neighbours whom he suspects of poaching.

COUNTY OF PICTOU.

I have but little special information of interest to furnish with respect to PICTOU COUNTY. A few individuals have been arrested and fined, and had their fishing gear confiscated for illegal netting; but the law in this respect seems to have been pretty generally complied with. Several instances have been noticed of imperfect fishways requiring improvement or renewal, but the defects were not of a very flagrant character, nor did they affect fish streams of notable importance.

COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH.

ANTIGONISH COUNTY presents altogether a gratifying return. This county, it will be perceived, has produced the largest quantity of salmon of any county in the Province; whilst its yield from other branches of the fisheries has been a fair one. No violations of the law are reported to me from this county.

COUNTY OF GUYSBORO'.

GUYSBORO' COUNTY presents a highly prosperous condition of the fisheries for the past year, there having been an improvement in nearly all its branches, but especially in the yield of codfish, mackerel and lobsters. I shall again refer to the latter. No violations of the law of any importance are reported from this county.

COUNTY OF RICHMOND.

In RICHMOND the report is very favourable. The returns of cod, haddock and herring show a large increase over those of 1874; salmon and alewives proved to be about the same as last year; but the fall mackerel fishery has proved a comparative failure, owing to boisterous weather. The fish were reported to be plenty on the coast. No complaints of violations of the law are reported from this county, other than for catching lobsters below the minimum standard of measurement.

COUNTY OF CAPE BRETON.

In CAPE BRETON County the statistical returns show that the season has been a fairly successful one, and no violation of the law is reported from either of the three Overseers. I regret to say that from having been unable to visit this county, I cannot give a particular account of its condition with respect to fisheries.

COUNTY OF INVERNESS.

INVERNESS was visited by me in July, during the height of the river fishing, and I was agreeably surprised to find a state of affairs much more satisfactory than I had been led to believe was the case in former years. I found no evidence of illegal fishing where, I believe, it had in previous years been extensively practiced. I found that a few mill dams required improved fish-ways; but the general condition of the county was not unsatisfactory. There is much need of a resident Warden at Little River, Cheticamp. This is an important salmon stream. It is reported to me that illegal fishing is there freely carried on; and at present the nearest fishery officer lives over five and twenty miles distant.

The past fishing season has not been a very prosperous one in Inverness. Salmon, mackerel and alewives were a comparative failure, although it is believed that it would have been otherwise with the coast salmon had it not been for the unfavourable weather. On the other hand, the catch of codfish exceeded the average of the four past years.

COUNTY OF VICTORIA.

There has been a like result of the season's operations in VICTORIA. There has been a great and seemingly unaccountable falling off in the coast salmon fishery, as also in the netting of herring and mackerel, whilst the catch of codfish exceeded that of other years. I found the state of the rivers in this county, at the time of my visit last summer, quite satisfactory. Some attempts at poaching have been made; but generally speaking the people evince every disposition to conform to the law.

The new harbour at Cape North, the great benefit of which is being already experienced, must eventually prove to be an inestimable advantage to the fishing interests of this vicinity.

Lobster Fishery.

THE LOBSTER FISHERY demands some special remarks. For years past the true and earnest advocates of the fishery interests of the country have been apprehensive that the taking of such immense numbers of lobsters, great and small, in season and out of season, as were required to supply the great demand of the numerous canning establishments dotting our shores, must soon lead to the utter extermination of the lobster upon those shores. Already, indeed some time since, facts have shown that this apprehension was well founded. We find that over four million cans of lobsters were put up in Nova Scotia this season. These fish are becoming rapidly more scarce, and are found only of smaller dimensions than formerly, in consequence of which facts some of the canning establishments have already been obliged to close up business. This is more especially the case on the shore west of Halifax. Further east, where the ground has not been so much fished, the fishery is as yet more flourishing. Not only is the inordinate destruction of the lobster tending rapidly to its extermination upon our shores, but the prosecution of that fishery, and the great quantities of offal which it causes to be deposited in the coast waters, are proving to be seriously destructive to the other fisheries.

The clause relative to the lobster fishery, which appears in the regulations of all the counties, proves to be quite inadequate to the cure of the evil which it was intended to meet. After the most careful enquiries, both east and west, I am firmly of the belief that during the months of July and August the lobster fishers continue to take whatever comes into their nets and pots—soft shells, females with eggs attached, and lobsters of less than the prescribed dimensions,—without any regard to the law whatever. Many, perhaps most of the proprietors of canning establishments, with like disregard of the law, buy these lobsters. Where they refuse to do so the mischief is no less great; for the young fish thus taken die, are thrown overboard, and pollute the waters to the serious damage of other fisheries. It is simply impossible to prevent this illegal lobster fishing with the staff of officers now employed. To do this would require an active and vigilant warden to be constantly on duty at every lobster-canning establishment in the Province; and even then it is doubtful if the present law could be strictly enforced.

My views upon this matter are fully concurred in by those fishery officers who have had the best opportunities of seeing the operation of the law. Mr. Tory, the Overseer of Guysboro', says in his report:—"From the increase of lobster-canning establishments along the coast there cannot be a doubt that that fishery will, in a few years, be very materially injured and finally destroyed, unless proper precaution is taken to protect it. The present year has given ample proof of the over-fishing, by the immense quantity poured into the market, thereby depreciating the price, which has nearly caused ruin to those engaged therein, besides the fearful destruction in the catching of so many small ones and soft-shell ones during the warm weather in summer. I am credibly informed that nearly one-third of the lobsters taken between the 1st of August and 10th of September die before reaching the canning establishments, owing to the effect of the atmosphere upon the soft shell which a large portion of them have at that period, and thereby become useless for canning, and are thrown away. Also, the flesh at this season is so light that it takes three times the quantity to make the same weight that it does in the months of May and June. Taking these facts into consideration, and having a regard for the perpetuation of this fishery, I would most earnestly recommend that a restriction be placed upon the catching of these fish during the above-named period, &c. I would further recommend that the smallest sized lobster be not less than ten inches in length, instead of nine as now."

Mr. Anderson, Overseer of East Halifax, reports:—"Last year I refrained from giving an opinion on lobster fishing; this season I have given it my special attention. I consider necessary a special Act prohibiting the throwing of offal of lobster factories into the water, as it is positively detrimental both to the salmon and herring fisheries, as neither will frequent polluted waters. Many complaints

"have been made to me that the traps, trawls, and numerous boats engaged in catching lobsters, are injurious to the inland coast fisheries, particularly salmon. For the protection of lobsters, I would recommend that no lobster be caught after the 31st of July. To carry out the 9-inch rule is next to impossible, unless there be a Warden for each factory; in most of the districts, in the fall fishing, the greater portion are under size, &c.

From Chester district, Mr. Redden reports:—"Lobsters are on the decrease, owing to the fishermen destroying the small ones to evade the law." Mr. Jost, from the western district of Lunenburg, says:—"There is no question but this business (lobster canning) has been overdone and has run down. The continual taking from the same ground, without heeding time or rules, inducing recuperation, has done, and is doing its work. Formerly the bulk of the lobsters brought in were from one and a half pounds upwards each, in weight, the average being from two to two and a half pounds. Now the bulk brought in will barely measure each the legal nine inches from the tip of the nose to the extremity of the tail, &c."

Mr. Sellon, of Queen's County, reports that "the lobsters were an ordinary catch during the first of the season, but small—not much over the size required by law;" and he refers to "the large amount of travelling, with expense, to prevent fishermen from violating the law." Mr. Ryer, of Shelburne, in the course of a brief report, remarks:—"The fishermen are of the opinion that the lobster pots being set on the spawning grounds keep the herrings out of the bays and harbours." The statement of fines and forfeitures furnished by Mr. Ballam, of Richmond, plainly indicates the great prevalence of illegal lobster-fishing in that district.

I am certain that these views from official authorities reflect the general opinion of the public. In view of the facts which have come to my knowledge, and of representations made to me, I would most earnestly recommend that the regulations be so amended as to forbid the taking of any lobster of less than ten inches in length, and that no lobsters whatever be permitted to be caught during the months of July and August, or that all lobster-canning establishments or factories be closed upon the 31st of July, and so remain closed until the end of the year. The former alternative, along with the suggested amendment as to the dimensions of the lobster, would probably be sufficiently effective and more acceptable to all parties interested.

Fishery Regulations.

I beg leave to submit that the regulations issued last spring require some revision. Indeed, there are none for Annapolis and Antigonish, such as were prepared and proclaimed to meet the local requirements of the other counties; and in the two Counties omitted, such regulations are as much needed as anywhere else in the Province.

As to the amendments required in the regulations now in force, I have in the foregoing pages made mention of a few of the more important. Others are needful to correct some obscurities and ambiguities to be met with and which are probably attributable to errors in printing. These defects may be trivial in appearance, but in some cases they seem to afford possibilities of escape to parties charged with guilt, of which means they are ever ready to avail themselves. Should such revision take place it would be desirable, for various reasons, to make the different sets of regulations as nearly uniform as possible, where the different localities to which they respectively apply are similarly circumstanced by nature.

There is still another very desirable addition, as it seems to me, to these regulations to which I must specially refer. At all the principal fishing stations upon the coast, the number of fishermen has increased out of all proportion to the number of fishing-berths wherein they can successfully pursue their calling; and this disproportion must, of course, become greater every year as population increases. As the migratory fish have their favourite spots where they strike upon the shore, these berths themselves vary immensely in value. In these facts may be found the most fruitful source of the disputes, quarrels and heartburnings of the shore fishermen. It scarcely ever happens that any man can claim a strictly legal right to any fishing

berth. His claim is usually founded upon his having been the first of the season to occupy the spot in question, or his having occupied it for a succession of years. Hence a frequent scrambling for berths, and frequent encroachments upon those assumed to be in the possession of others.

The difficulties arising from this state of affairs are increasing to such a degree that something must be soon done for their removal. I would suggest that whenever such difficulties exist, the local fishery officer, or some other disinterested party, be authorized to define the limits of fishing berths, and then on a duly appointed day to dispose of the same annually to the highest bidder by auction. I do not suppose that the proceeds of such sales would be very considerable; nor according to the view I entertain would it be an object to make them so. But all disputes as to the occupation of berths would be thus obviated, and when those who would be occupants far outnumbered the berths for disposal, they would be induced to form amicable combinations among themselves to occupy berths in common. I have reason to believe that such a regulation would prove acceptable to the fishermen themselves whilst it would relieve them, as well as officers of the Fishery Department of much anxiety and difficulty.

Leasing System.

I cannot conclude this report without respectfully, but earnestly, urging the desirability of a commencement at least being made to lease the fishery streams of Nova Scotia, as is already done in the neighbouring Provinces of New Brunswick, Quebec, and Ontario. Wherever I have been throughout the Province, I have met with a widely prevalent and decided opinion in favour of such a policy, and this especially among the more intelligent and substantial members of the community. It has, too, been forced upon my attention, unasked, everywhere. The effect which such a policy would have in securing the protection of streams, and consequently in increasing speedily the product of our fisheries, seems too obvious to require argument in its behalf. I am certain that whatever clamor, if any, might be raised against its adoption would emanate mainly, if not solely, from people who have little or no stake in the country, and those who form the class from which the poachers with whom we now have to deal are recruited.

The early adoption of this policy now seems to be fully expected. I have had, I believe, scores of applications from parties desirous of dealing practically with the matter. In several instances, the desired stream was one which is now virtually, or absolutely unproductive, but which the would-be lessee was prepared to stock if he could be allowed possession of it for a reasonable term.

I would not advocate the desirability of an immediate and sweeping measure, but only of a commencement on a limited scale, even if only for the sake of the experiment. For this purpose several streams can be selected from different sections of the Province, the closing of which to the general public would conflict but slightly, if at all, with any now existing interests. To avoid all semblance of secrecy or partiality, these could be advertised each, wholly, or in sections, and leased to the highest bidder, by auction or tender, for a term of years. To pursue this course on a limited scale can do no harm. If it prove futile as to good results, it can be discontinued. If the contrary, as I firmly believe, it can be gradually extended from year to year, and then the good work already commenced by official hands will, directly aided by private interest, restore to the waters of Nova Scotia that vast piscatorial wealth for which they were so deservedly famed in the remote past.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. S. HAMILTON,
Inspector of Fisheries, Nova Scotia.

APPENDIX No. 12.

REPORT OF W. H. ROGERS, Esq., FISHERY OFFICER FOR NOVA SCOTIA,
ON THE YIELD AND VALUE OF FISHERIES, DURING THE SEASON
OF 1875.

AMHERST, 31st December, 1875.

To the Hon. A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith the statistics of the condition and production of the fisheries in Nova Scotia for the year 1874, and beg leave to report as follows:—

The returns, I am sorry to say, show a considerable falling off from last year's, amounting in the aggregate to over one million dollars, and this decrease chiefly falls upon the following fisheries: mackerel, herring, salmon, cod and lobsters.

The short catch of salmon may be accounted for by the change in the law, which affected this Province by prohibiting the taking of these fish after the 15th of August, whereas formerly they could be taken in salt water as late as the 20th of October; thus curtailing the legal season by two months. Also, by an error on the part of one of the overseers in Inverness County in last year's returns to me, having put in the column of barrels the number of pounds taken; making the statistics show 1,900 barrels of salmon, instead of pounds, and having no means of knowing this fact at the time of making out my returns, I transcribed the amount as I found it.

Mackerel, herring and cod fluctuate greatly in their yield almost every year, and are subject to influences in their movements beyond the knowledge of the most experienced and intelligent fishermen of the country.

With reference to herring, however, there is a very general impression among fishermen that the bait used by lobster catchers in their traps so contaminate the water that herring will not enter the bays where these traps are set.

Overseers Anderson and Ryer refer to this fact in their reports, and in this connection I would most respectfully call your attention to Overseer Tory's views on the lobster fishery. It will also be seen that several overseers are of opinion that unless some further check is put upon the catch of these fish, the supply will soon be exhausted. I have no hesitation in endorsing these views; these fish being, moreover, unwholesome food during the season they shed their shells. Persons living in the vicinity of places where lobsters are caught, never think of eating them during that season, as they are unpalatable and unwholesome. I state this from my own personal observation, having lived thirty years in a locality where lobsters were abundant. If this be true, why should Government allow of fish to be caught, when out of season, to be sent all over the world to be eaten in an unfit condition? The adoption of a close season and a more restrictive policy with regard to these fish will not have the effect of putting an improved article on the market, but will preserve from destruction a very important branch of industry and commerce. The present almost unrestricted mode of conducting this business not only deteriorates the quality, but exhausts the supply and overstocks the market. The sooner lobster packers make up their minds to keep one or two months' close-time in midsummer, the better for them. I am quite sure it will have to come to that, or we may make up our minds to lose this fishery entirely.

The short yield of cod may be accounted for as follows:—This fishing is pursued around the shores of Nova Scotia entirely in open boats which can only remain on the fishing grounds during comparatively smooth weather, and as winds this year were continuous and heavy during the fishing season, little was done in shore fishing.

I would also beg to call your attention to what Overseer Ross says with reference to trawl fishing. I have no personal knowledge of this mode of fishing, but wherever practised it is generally considered injurious to the fisheries for reasons stated by Mr. Ross.

For some unaccountable reason, not a single barrel of alewives was taken in the Margaree this year. This is extraordinary, as there are no obstructions on this stream to prevent fish from going up, and also because the river has always heretofore produced from two to four thousand barrels yearly. But notwithstanding this unusual state of affairs the yield of the Province is about equal to last year's. While Margaree at the extreme north has produced nothing, the Tusknet at the extreme south shows the handsome yield of over 5,000 barrels (5,463 brls.), which is nearly double the quantity taken in 1874, and three times the amount taken in 1873; thus showing a steady and rapid increase as the result of the protection afforded since 1869 when the law was first put in on this river. It is probable that 10,000 barrels may be the yield next year, as its branches and lakes are of sufficient extent to produce these fish in almost unlimited quantities. Fifty and sixty years ago several large vessels were loaded there yearly, which formed quite an extensive business between Yarmouth and the West Indies. And notwithstanding the utterances of certain persons who have but a limited knowledge of the rivers of this Province, and granting that fish-ladders are not in such an efficient state as they ought to be in some counties, there is unquestionably a steady and healthy increase in the protection of all kinds of migratory fish, as shown by comparing the statistics for 1869, 1870 and 1871 with those of 1873, 1874 and 1875. The three former years produced in salmon, trout, alewives and shad a value of \$638,062, while the three latter gave \$860,306; showing an increase of 35 per cent. or \$222,244, notwithstanding the falling off during the year 1875 as compared with 1874, and the Margaree River yielding no alewives this year, while in 1870 the catch amounted to 6,570 barrels. Had this river produced its average yield, as no doubt it will next year; there would have been some \$14,000 to add to the increase of the past three years. Should these figures be correct, and I have every reason to believe they are so, they prove that the rivers of this Province are fast recovering from the wretched state your Department found them in seven years ago.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Overseer King reports that the western division of this county stands, with some exceptions, nearly the same as last year. Salmon were not so plentiful as last season, yet the quantity shows an excess over the average of former years. Shad also exhibit a falling off in the quantity taken, but the size of these valuable fish this year is so much larger than formerly, that the catch fully comes up to last year's. Other fish were about as plentiful as usual, and the same quantities taken, although fewer persons were engaged in fishing. It is a difficult thing to convince mill-owners to comply with the saw-dust and rubbish regulations; slabs, blocks, and edgings, as a general thing are, however, not allowed to go into streams to any great extent. Having made a personal inspection of all streams under his charge, Mr. King reports, that, in his opinion, saw-dust has no injurious effect upon the harbours. This is due to the extra rise and fall of tide, and consequent rapid flow of water, as well as to the rapid descent of streams above tide action. There are, however, deep places in these streams where the salmon rest in their ascent, and which are filling up with saw-dust. The principal rivers are provided with fish-ways by mill-owners; still there remains a good deal to be done.

Overseer Hingley, who was appointed to replace Mr. Patton, for the eastern division of this county, reports as follows:—River Philip is a difficult stream to

protect against poachers; its banks on both sides for long distances being covered with bushes and second-growth of forest. Having received the necessary permission, I engaged Timothy Patton and Wesley Mattinson as night watchers; they did good service and efficiently performed their duties. John W. Moore was appointed Warden for this river, vice David Stewart resigned, and has efficiently performed his duty. He seized eleven salmon nets this fall. He has about ten miles of river to guard, and having to hire assistance, deserves some addition to his salary. The night watchers and Warden Fillmore also seized about twenty salmon nets. Salmon were plentiful in Shinemicas River and River Philip after the fall rains. One hundred salmon were secured from the latter stream for the purpose of supplying spawn to the hatching house at Bedford Basin.

"In addition to the lobster factory at Pugwash, others were put up at Wallace and Tidnish. The latter were in operation only late in the season, but did a good business for the short time they worked."

Mr. Hingley further remarks that the Fisheries Act forbids the taking of salmon after the 15th of August, and as these fish do not go up our rivers until the fall rains are over, say during the latter part of September or first of October, it follows that the Act becomes virtually a total prohibition, and deprives numbers of poor persons living along the rivers, of what was, to them, an important addition to their mode of living; the old regulations giving until the 20th October. The Act, as applies to the Bay of Fundy and Atlantic shores, gives the inhabitants of these places ample time to secure their supply, whilst, at the same time, protecting the fish. Mr. Hingley suggests that some provision be made so as to have the close season for salmon beginning later in the season in the streams of the Straits of Northumberland, or in such as are effected in a similar manner to those of the eastern section of Cumberland.

COLCHESTER COUNTY.

Overseer Pollock reports that there were not as many shad caught on the lower Stewiacke as last year; the water being high when the fish visited this river. Shad generally make their appearance in the Stewiacke about the 10th May; going up from 15 to 20 miles, and returning by the 1st June, and by the 20th all have left the river. Few salmon were taken for the same reason as above, but after the close season, the water being low, a great many fish could be seen moving up stream, and thousands reached their spawning grounds safely. The fish caught in this river are chiefly by the inhabitants for their own use, and by a few sportsmen. A fish-pass been made over the dam on Brookfield Brook. It is presumed to be efficient, but the fact has not yet been decidedly ascertained.

Overseer Blair advances similar reasons for a small catch of salmon in his district, and thinks it also prevented poachers from attempting their depredations. The way the law was enforced against these fellows last year, contributed not a little to the disappearance of poaching. He also writes that he visited Green Creek, and made a thorough examination of that stream.

Overseer Davison, from the upper Economy district, reports a decrease in the quantities of all kinds of fish taken this year. Shad, which is the principal fish taken in this locality, were of very fine quality. Mr. Davison further adds that the sale of fresh fish is becoming a better business than formerly, especially in the eastern end of his district, where the Intercolonial Railway affords greater facilities for transporting them to different parts of the county than the western enjoys. Some improvements were made in fish-ways; a new one having been erected on the Portauquique River, and that on Economy River having been altered. In both cases they will prove efficient for the ascent of fish. The law seems to be respected, no violations having come under this Overseer's notice. Mr. Davison hopes the time will soon arrive when fishermen will recognize its utility and look upon it as a protection rather than an invasion of their rights.

HANTS COUNTY.

Nothing of any importance to report from this County further than the quantity of fish taken was about the same as last year's.

KINGS COUNTY.

This county shows about the same yield as last year. Overseer Bishop reports the catch of alewives to have been remarkably good, exceeding any of the last six years. The catch of other kinds of fish was comparatively fair, with the exception of salmon. Mr. Bishop cannot account for this falling off. He writes that after much difficulty he succeeded in clearing the river of the jams he referred to in his report of last year as being so detrimental to the fishing interests. That at Calder's Mills still remains, but is provided with a ladder made in accordance with the fishery regulations of Nova Scotia. This ladder Mr. Bishop is satisfied will be altogether unfit for such a large river as the Gaspereaux, and does not answer the end designed. Consequently it has been determined to have one-third of the river opened at this point, when there will be a natural pass for the fish all the way to their spawning grounds.

DIGBY COUNTY.

Overseer Morehouse reports a falling off in the catch of this county, but states that this is amply compensated by the high prices realized and the ready sales effected. Other favourable circumstance have placed fishermen in as good a position as any other class of producers in that locality. Mr. Morehouse also reports indications of the return of mackerel to the shores of St. Mary's Bay—these fish having entirely forsaken that locality for the past three years. The shad fishery of St. Mary's Bay has been very good, the catch being nearly double that of last year. The salmon fishery at Sandy Cove, which was abandoned last year was partially resumed this season, with results proving that all that is needed is proper management to make this a most profitable pursuit. The herring fishery of Digby Basin shows signs of improvement, but yet it falls far short of former years. This is much to be regretted, as that part of the Basin lying in Annapolis County has been very productive; and no other cause can be assigned for this than the large deposits of sawdust and other deleterious matter which are carried down by the waters of Bear River. Mr. Morehouse adds: "I have not been an idle spectator while the violators of law were inflicting such injuries to our fishermen. The most daring violator of the law is E. Walsh, of the firm of E. Walsh & Co. The aggregate of fines this year against this firm amounts to some \$500. Warrants have been in the hands of the chief constable since June, but by some mysterious influence Walsh has managed to preserve his liberty and his money—not a dollar having yet been collected. I regret to have to report the death of one of our Wardens, Mr. William Odell."

YARMOUTH COUNTY.

From this county, Overseer Gardner reports a slight falling off in the gross production of the fishery; yet this industry was notwithstanding very satisfactory, owing to the high prices obtained at home and abroad. Lobster fishing which contributed quite an item in last year's returns, was abandoned this season. Residents are putting up an establishment at Lower Argyle, which will be in operation next year. Salmon and alewife fishing, on Tusket River, was better than for the last twenty years, particularly that for alewives. Old fishermen say they never saw the river so full of fish as this year. This happy result must undoubtedly be attributed to the removal of weirs from the river and to its being kept clear of obstructions. Overseer Gardner, with the assistance of Wardens Hatfield and Nickerson, attended closely to the dams on Tusket river and its branches, and these streams were free from obstructions to the passage of fish, except on Carleton river, where the owners of the mill do not

appear willing to comply with the law, thinking something in the shape of a fish-ladder is sufficient. He, in company with Warden Hatfield, visited Carleton Mill on the 31st May last, and finding the fish-ladders out of repair, gave the owners notice to open the mill gates or dam forthwith. They begged hard to be allowed to repair the ladder, stating that a good passage could thereby be made for fish. With this understanding, Mr. Gardner and Mr. Hatfield left, stating at the same time that the latter would return in a few days, and that if the ladder worked satisfactorily the order would not be enforced. He accordingly visited the mill again on the 7th June, and finding the ladders did not give sufficient passage to the fish reported the fact to Overseer Gardner, who immediately issued a summons. On the 14th June in connection with P. S. Hamilton, Esq., Fishery Inspector, Mr. Gardner again visited this dam and after remaining about nearly an hour, saw no fish pass up, although the river at the time was full of them. On the 14th June the mill-owners were fined twenty dollars and costs, which they paid. They then opened their mill race, giving the fish a clear passage for about a week, and large numbers went up. Mr. Gardner further writes: "This river is a very important one, and from what I see of the working of fish-ladders my opinion is that our mill-owners either do not understand how to put them up, or that they will not give a sufficient pass for fish. I have found no difficulty with other mill-owners who have always been willing to open their gates to give the fish a free pass, and most of them agree with me that the fish-ladders will not do it." Mr. Gardner seems to have changed his opinion from last year when he wrote: "I was at Carleton mill dam on the 2nd June, and took with me Warden John A. Hatfield. On that day the river below the dam was full of fish, and we had a good opportunity of seeing the working of the fish-ladders which had been placed there according to the instructions left by Mr. W. H. Rogers. That day the fish had no difficulty in getting up. If the owners of the mill will keep the ladder in as good condition during the fishing season of next year it would be all that is required."

Overseer Gardner recommends the appointment of a Warden at Chegoggin River, as an extensive and growing fishery is starting up in that part of the county, extending from the county line at Green Cove to Yarmouthtown, and the alewives are increasing on that river, and would still more increase if properly protected. The distance is so great from any of the Wardens that it is impossible to have the necessary supervision.

SMELBURNE COUNTY.

Overseer Ryer reports a falling off in some branches of the fishery this year, salmon were scarce; herrings a failure. The net fishermen are of opinion that lobster pots being set on spawning grounds keep the herrings out of the bays and harbours. There has been a large increase in haddock fishing which makes up for the decrease in herrings. Cod and other deep sea fish have been an average catch. There is a marked improvement in some of the rivers. Shelburne River has six dams on a distance of 12 miles, all provided with fish-ways. There are no obstructions as yet in Birchtown Round Bay and Indian Brook. Clyde River is in a bad condition at present. Notwithstanding all the efforts that were made to get these fish over Sutherland's dam the ladder is a failure, and will always be so until the Department sends a proper officer to superintend the building of a proper fish-ladder, which can only be done in midsummer. Barrington River is one of the best streams in the County for alewives. Large quantities of these fish ascend to the Great Lake to spawn, a distance of 12 miles from the Warden at Barrington Head, and as there are five or six families settled at the lake it is important that a Warden be appointed there for the protection of fish. Mr. Ryer speaks of Samuel Nickerson, who lives at the lake, as a good man for the office, who would attend to the duties for a small salary. Mr. Ryer had to travel 60 miles last June to destroy a fish-trap on this river. There are two lumbering establishments on the Jordan River, and a large quantity of sawdust and mill rubbish have been allowed to fall in it, which has the effect of keeping alewives and salmon from entering and going up.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.

Overseer S. T. N. Sellon, reports as follows:—"Fishing was not a success this season, but there are good indications for the future. Herrings and mackerel were in abundance, but did not come into the harbours and bays; and for want of bait, line fishing was very poor. Although the catch of alewives on the Medway River was small, yet it can be reported upon favourably. The first run of alewives came earlier than usual and ascended the river without obstruction. The second school, in June, was moderately good; and that two runs of fish went up this river is inferred from the fact that large numbers of young fish, about a finger's length, came down in August, and in October many young fish about two inches long were also noticed in the ponds and still waters, going to sea. It is a source of gratification to report that an ordinary supply of these fine fish were taken many miles up the river, a circumstance unknown for many years. Salmon arrived in February, and in March went up the river unmolested, excepting by rod and line fishing and by Indians. The second run of salmon in this river, or the June school, seemed to keep the channel of the stream, and as the fish-passes were all in excellent order there is no doubt a good number went up the river. In June an Indian killed at Ponhook with rod and line a twenty-two pound salmon, and as the sea-lice were still on him, it is conclusive proof that he was but a few hours from salt water. On the last day of May many young salmon came from the breeding pools and went to sea. An equally favourable report cannot be made on Medway River. Salmon came in late, and not in abundance; but in October, after the fishing season was over, the harbour was alive with fish of a large size. Alewives were late coming in, but were abundant. At Robinson's Brook and Port Joli alewives have largely increased, and Mr. Robinson says he expects more profit in a few years from the fish than from his mill. He also says a good supply of young fish went to sea in August, and was surprised when I showed him in October plenty of fish about two inches long in the smooth waters above his dam. This is a proof that two runs of fish went to this brook. Similar favourable reports from Stewart's Brook, at Port Mouton, where alewives have much increased since this stream has been under the control of the Fishery Laws, and a more efficient ladder placed here during the present season. Lobsters were an ordinary catch during the first part of the season, but the fish were small, not much over the size required by law. The factory people observed the law; but as these establishments are situated at the extreme ends of the county and the fishing being around the shores, it occasions a large amount of expensive travelling to prevent fishermen from violating the law.

Fish-ways on Medway River are very good. This is proved by the fact that fish went up to the head waters in large numbers. Some of these structures, however, require improvements, but mill-owners decline doing so on the pretence that they were approved of by the Inspector of Fisheries so soon as they were made. A very fine and efficient ladder was built at the Tanaock dam this summer by direction of Mr. W. H. Rogers. The salmon spawning beds on the Brookfield, Pleasant and Westfield Rivers, and at Wild Cat, will be carefully looked after by the Wardens. When these beds were last visited the water was too high to enable to judge of the number of fish on them, but it is stated that a great many salmon went up. The law is generally well complied with. One man was fined for interfering with the Warden, but being very poor, with a family of young children who would have suffered had the father been sent to gaol, and as the chief object was to protect the Warden, the fine was allowed to remain in abeyance."

This very efficient officer closes his report with these remarks: "While my report does not show a good cash value for this year, appearances are in favour of an increase in the yield of the inland fishery for the future. I carefully attended to the interests of this fine county, with its very many mills and dams during the season as my diary will show, and find the work has largely increased."

LUNENBURG COUNTY.

From the western district of this county, Overseer Jost reports a falling off in the yield of the fisheries as compared with the returns of last year. The decrease appears to be in the in-shore fisheries of all kinds, especially those of mackerel and herring. The Labrador cod-fishing, also, was poor, yielding less than half fares to the vessels engaged. Fortunately but few were so employed this year. The decrease in the lobster-canning returns accounts for more than half the falling off above mentioned. There is no doubt that this business has been overdone and run down. The continual taking from the same grounds, without heeding time or regulations to effectually protect the spawning fish, has done and is doing its work. Formerly, the bulk of the lobsters brought in were from one and a half pounds each upwards; the average being two and two and one-half pounds. Now the bulk landed are only about the legal nine inches in length, from tip of nose to end of tail. The lobster establishment at Chester closed about the middle of the season this year. The catch of salmon and alewives was small.

A new fish-ladder has been placed in the dam of the gang mill, on Keddy's River. The obstruction formerly existing in Petite Rivière, near Conquerall Bridge, to which allusion was made in a former report, has been removed this year by means of a small grant of money from the Department, expended by James E. Hebb, now appointed a Warden for that district. He is instructed to be particular in preventing a recurrence of similar obstructions from mill rubbish and sawdust.

From the eastern district of this county, Overseer Redden reports a general decrease in the yield. Salmon were prevented from coming in-shore by the ice. Lobsters are on the decrease, owing to the destruction of small ones by fishermen, to evade the law. The catch of other fish is small, but this was partly compensated by the returns from Labrador. Gold River branch promises a good yield of alewives; and, with proper attention, the rivers of this division will yield an ample supply of fish. The fishery laws being new in this county, it is difficult for the officers to carry them out as well as they should be. The rivers, however, are in good working order, excepting Mushamush and Middle River Branch, which are obstructed by sawdust and natural causes. Martin's River was cleared up to the spawning grounds, and will be one of the best rivers in this division for gasperaux and salmon. Mushamush has a fish-way in good working order; but if sawdust is allowed to remain in the river, there cannot be a great increase of fish in that stream. There are some small streams in this district which require attention, such as Narrow's Brook, Kauback's Brook and Little East River. Salmon nets, under the Nova Scotia law, were so numerous that it became almost impossible for fish to ascend the rivers; and Indians dipping during the night, destroyed the fish that succeeded in clearing the nets. The dipping cannot be prevented, unless night watchers be placed on the rivers, the vigilance of Wardens being insufficient to enforce the law. The bag, stake and floor nets, which used to be set too near the mouths of rivers, were a great hindrance to salmon entering them. These obstructions have been removed, and the fish have now a chance of reaching their spawning grounds. Overseer Redden also suggests that Middle River Branch, as well as the small streams above mentioned, receive the attention of the Department.

HALIFAX COUNTY.

Overseer Anderson reports from the eastern district of this county that, having had complaints made to him of the fish-pass at Moser's River being useless, as no fish could pass through it, he had to make six trips to that locality before he got the matters finally arranged. On his first visit the fact was fully apparent that the old fish-way was inefficient; and owing to ice on the dam and high water it was not until the third visit that repairs could be commenced. A difficulty then arose with the mill-owners as to whom should bear the cost of constructing the new fish-way, they having, in the mean time, torn down the old one, which had been built under the instructions of his predecessors, who had passed it as sufficient. The fish being

swarming to get up, there was no time to communicate with the proper authorities. Mr. Anderson, therefore, pledged himself to obtain from the Government one-half the amount of cost of construction; and, failing in this, he will, to a certain extent, be liable. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Simonson, the Company's Agent, Lunson Bayer, of Musquodoboit, an experienced mechanic, was engaged to do the work, and had to visit the place twice before it could be commenced; hence the echarge.

• On the 12th July complaint was made of a dam with an insufficient fish-way, ten miles up the Tangier; a distance of thirty-eight miles. Complaints also having been made of poaching and obstructions on the Ecum Secum river, at the extreme east end of this division, another visit had to be made to that locality. A change of Wardens at Mosher's river, and to include this stream in his district would remedy some of the troubles. Mr. Anderson having visited the locality in question found matters all wrong and the place isolated; the parties were poor and pleaded ignorance of the law. Having done the best he could, he returned. These matters will be remedied next year. Mr. Anderson further reports: "By special directions of the Commissioner of Fisheries, I joined Mr. Rogers in Halifax, and with him visited every river in my district. My sixth and last trip was commenced on the 3rd December, but the fishermen being chiefly in Halifax with their fish, I had to return for a few days. Since then I have been solely engaged taking an account of the fish, &c. I regret to say there is more poaching on the Musquodoboit than on all the other rivers in my district. This river is in every way adapted for spearing, being thickly settled to the head waters. I have recommended two additional Wardens for this stream. It is sad to notice the wholesale slaughter of salmon on this river when these fish are altogether unfit for use. I proposed dispensing with a Warden at the Harbour, but find when my presence is not required here I am called away to some other place, and without efficient Wardens it is impossible to carry out the law. I have the good-will and assistance of the well-thinking portion of the community, and have endeavoured to make everyone understand that the law is a benefit, not to be dreaded. Last year I refrained from giving an opinion on lobster fishing; this season I have given it my special attention. I considered it necessary that there be a special Act prohibiting the throwing of offals of lobster factories into the water, as it is positively detrimental both to the salmon and herring fishing, neither frequenting polluted waters. Complaints were made to me that the traps, trawls and boats engaged in catching lobsters are injurious to the coast fishing, particularly that of salmon. For the protection of lobsters I would recommend that no lobsters be caught after the 31st July. To carry out the present law is next to impossible, unless there be a Warden for each factory. In most of the districts during fall fishing most of the lobsters are under size. I am happy to state that during my experience of over forty years I have never seen fishermen more thoroughly contented and apparently better provided for winter. There has been a failure in net fishing, but line fishing was better and the high prices secured gave the true reward to the industrious."

Overseer Fitzgerald reports a falling off of one-third on last year's catch in the eastern district. Codfishing was good, but the mackerel and herring were less and the salmon were scarce. Spring being stormy, fishermen could not keep their nets in good order. In Margaret's Bay, one of the finest fishing grounds in the Province, the fishery was almost a total failure. In former years there was always a large number of salmon, mackerel and herring taken, but at present they seem to have left the Bay.

PICOTU COUNTY.

Overseer Graham, reports fishing in the rivers and along the coast of his district to have been a failure this year. The fish-ladders on nearly all of the streams were more or less damaged by the ice; some being carried away entirely. Most of them were repaired. There were no violations of the fishery regulations reported, except on East River, where three nets and one canoe were confiscated. These nets were

set by miners, who were fined a small sum by the Stipendiary Magistrate, it being their first offence. There appears to be a general desire on the part of the inhabitants to respect the law.

Overseer John McDonald reports a further falling off of all kinds of fish, particularly salmon, in the eastern division of this country. Last year, the cause assigned for this decrease was the cold and backward spring and the strong south easterly winds which prevailed. The same cause is assigned this year, with this difference, that the winds were southerly and westerly and of greater force, thus preventing the fish from striking in-shore. At the spawning season, the rivers were in a more favourable condition than last year, the water being higher. Greater numbers of the fish undoubtedly ascended to the spawning beds. Early in the close season, as usual, some persons attempted to infringe the law, but sharp personal supervision stopped the practice, and salmon were left comparatively free to ascend the rivers. An early visit to the several rivers, and a warning to mill-owners, has had the beneficial effect of making these persons more careful in keeping sawdust and mill rubbish out of streams.

Overseer McDonald further says that the unfavourable state of matters referred to at the close of his last report, respecting parties netting salmon at offings or mouths of harbours and at the outlet of rivers while the fish are ascending to their spawning beds, has been happily obviated by the change in the law so admirably meeting the case. He had to enforce obedience to the new regulations in a few cases, when the parties pleaded ignorance of the change. Mr. McDonald hopes for favourable results from the change in the law in future seasons.

ANTIGONISH COUNTY.

From this county Overseer Alex. McDonald reports no material difference from last year, with the exception of salmon fishing, which has been very good. Salmon seem to be increasing in the waters of this county, and as they command a ready market, fishermen begin to devote their attention almost exclusively to these fish.

Mackerel were very abundant, and of good quality, but refused bait; consequently the number of barrels taken was small. No violations of the fishery law came under the notice of the Overseer. Returns from this county do not show the amount of fish caught in its waters, as vessels from other places fish near the shores and dispose of their cargoes elsewhere.

GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY.

Overseer James A. Tory reports very favourably from this county for the present year. There has been a large increase in his district over the past in almost every kind of fish, especially in codfish, mackerel and lobsters. Altogether it proved a prosperous season to most persons engaged in fishing. From the increase in lobster-canning establishments along the coast there is no doubt but this fishery will in a few years be materially injured and finally destroyed unless proper precautions be taken to protect it. The present year has given ample proof of over-fishing by the immense quantity sent to the markets, besides the destruction in catching so many small and soft-shell fish during the warm weather in summer. Mr. Tory is credibly informed that fully one-third of the lobsters caught between 1st August and 10th September die before reaching the canning establishment, owing to the effect of the atmosphere upon the soft shell which a large portion have at that period, thereby becoming useless for canning, and consequently have to be thrown away. The flesh at this season of the year is so light and shrunk that it takes three times the number of lobsters to make the same weight as in May and June. Mr. Tory in consideration of the above facts, and for the ultimate benefit of all parties interested, recommends that a restriction be placed upon the catching of lobsters during the above-named period, feeling sure that both packers and fishermen will benefit thereby. If the

present system be continued the fishery must be destroyed and the manufacturers who have capital invested in the business will be compelled to remove to other places, and fishermen will thus be deprived of what is now a valuable source of income and means of support to them and their families, besides the loss to the Dominion of so large an article of export. Mr. Tory also recommends that lobsters of a smaller size than ten inches in length, instead of nine inches, as under the present regulations, be not allowed to be caught. There were no violations of law of any importance regarding the river fisheries, and from all the information that can be gathered, Mr. Tory believes that the fish frequenting the rivers under his charge are steadily increasing.

RICHMOND COUNTY.

Overseer E. H. Ballam reports that the coast fisheries of his division were successful this season; haddock and herring showing an increase over the catch of last year. Alewives and salmon remain about the same. Lobster fishing was very productive. The fall catch of mackerel has been a failure, owing to the boisterous weather in November, which resulted in a loss of nets, and prevented boats from attending to such nets as stood the weather, although the fish were plenty on the coast. As a whole, fishermen were successful, and good prices were obtained. A large quantity was sold for bait. No complaints were made relative to the river fisheries in Mr. Ballam's district this year.

D. Cameron, Overseer for the eastern division of this county, reports that while there has been a slight falling off in the catch of some kinds of fish there is a large increase in the aggregate over the yield of last year. The most notable increase was in cod and cod-oil; the increase in cod being two thousand quintals over that of last year, and the excess of oil about one thousand gallons. Fishermen consequently reaped a more plentiful harvest this year than last. The high prices obtained materially assisted in bringing about this desirable state of things. Mr. Cameron reports no violations of the law in his district.

CAPE BRETON COUNTY.

Mr. McDonald, one of the Overseers of this county, reports that the rivers are well stocked with fish on their way to their spawning grounds, easily passing the fishways. The catch of mackerel and herring was considerably below the average; these fish not appearing to near the shores as previously. Codfish yielded more than of late years, and the fishermen prosecuted their work in right down earnest. Lobster factories at Main-a-Dieu and Gabarus did not make a very profitable summer, owing partly to depression in that branch of business, and partly to the large catch of codfish, which yielded greater profits to fishermen. The factory at Louisburg was closed last fall, and continued so since. The people are beginning to understand the laws and regulations, and consequently pay them more respect.

Overseer Barrington reports a slight increase in cod and herring fishing of his district; while there has been about the same quantity of other fish taken as last year, although more vessels, boats and men were engaged in this occupation. Mr. Barrington complains that there are not so many herrings taken now as in former years, and ascribes as a cause to this falling off that, in former years, the nets were of so small a mesh that the fish dropped out and covered the spawning ground with dead herrings causing those which came for the purpose of spawning to proceed to cleaner and better grounds outside the district. Should this be the real cause, it has now been remedied by having the nets used all of a proper and uniform size; and it is to be hoped that this and other precautions which may be found conducive to the object will revive this important branch of industry. A good many vessels were fishing on the coast this season, but they did not catch anything. The fish were plenty but they would not bite. Mr. Barrington reports very favourably on the dispositions of the inhabitants to respect the law, and says he never has any trouble with fishermen and mill-owners. He has but to tell what is required according to law, and

everything is done as it should be. He made several trips on Sundays to the different fishing grounds to see if nets were set, but never detected any illegal proceedings.

Overseer Francis Quinan, on comparison of the years, finds a balance in favour of last. Salmon and mackerel were short this year; but on the other hand there was an increase of herring, codfish, haddock and smelts. Of the fine run of herrings which used to visit Sydney River annually between the 1st and 20th of July, there has not been a trace seen this season. A jam on Black Brook caused a good deal of trouble, and after vainly endeavouring to get the free assistance of neighbours, Mr. Quinan had to make a small outlay, the details of which have been forwarded to the Department. Mr. Quinan also reports having had a fish-ladder erected on another of the principal streams. Also, that but one case of poaching came under his notice, but that he was unable to secure proof to convict the offender.

VICTORIA COUNTY.

Overseer Donald McRae, Jr., reports quite an improvement regarding salmon rivers of his district; larger numbers of these fish visiting them at spawning time from year to year. This cheering result is undoubtedly due to the wise system of protection which the provisions of the law supply. There is now no further occasion to doubt that this source of wealth is fast recovering. Almost every Warden reports favourably on the steady improvement of their respective districts. The public in general now realize the fact that a strict observance of the law is conducive to their own interests; hence there is less difficulty in enforcing its provisions. Net fishing was not good during the first part of the season, but improved later, and on the whole it turns out nearly an average catch.

INVERNESS COUNTY.

From the western division of this county, Overseer John Cameron reports the catch of all kinds of fish as being less this year than last. There were no violations of the law brought under his notice. Some of the Wardens are doing their duty well, but this Overseer regrets others do not show the attendance their offices require. Some difficulty was at first experienced with proprietors of mills in compelling them to keep sawdust and rubbish out of the rivers; but after being threatened with fines, boxes were made and this nuisance mostly done away with. Mr. Cameron reports the following rivers without Wardens, viz.: "Graham's, McDonald's, McDougall's, and Little Judique River; also two rivers at Whychogomah." A good fish-way was built at S. E. Mabou by Mr. Benjamin Worth; but that put up by Mr. Colin Chisholm at S. W. Mabou is but a miserable affair and will require improvements. At River Inhabitants, Mr. Donald Cameron, who refuses to comply with the law in this respect will have to be dealt with.

Mr. A. Ross, Overseer for the northern division, reports the catch of codfish at some stations as larger than last year, and at others a shade lower; but on the whole an average yield. But for the unusually stormy fall, the probability is that this district would have experienced one of the most successful seasons ever known for codfish. Mackerel and herring were scarce, amounting almost to a total failure. A few salmon were caught along shore, but in the Margaree River they were scarce. Sportsmen visiting this locality from the Provinces and United States were much disappointed. Canning of salmon in former years gave employment to several persons, and amply remunerated those engaged in the business; but this year the factories were closed in consequence of the scarcity of fish. The alewife fishery was a total failure this year, no cause being assigned to it. Overseer Ross reports upon trawl fishing in the bays and along the shores as follows: "After a very careful investigation of the subject I have come to the conclusion that it is a very great injury to the fisheries of our coast, for the following reasons, viz.: trawls are set on Saturday and left so during Sunday; many fish disengage themselves from the trawls, and in several instances are so cut and mangled as to die in the water.

Another evil from the result of trawl fishing is the practice of cleaning the fish taken wherever the trawls are set. Some of the oldest fishermen in this county tell me that the codfish spawn in these bays and along these shores. If this is true, and I have no reason to doubt it, the sooner that mode of fishing be abolished the better for our country, because it is not the people of our Provinces that derive the most benefit from trawl fishing, but the Americans. Just imagine a fleet of forty vessels, fitted out with five trawls each, and five or six hundred hooks on each trawl; how quick they will sweep the fishing grounds of all kinds, taking the spawn or mother fish with the rest." Mr. Ross speaks favourably of the Wardens of his division. Although they had little to do this year, yet he is satisfied they are determined to perform their duty. There was only one case of violation of the law, but for want of sufficient evidence the guilty party was not convicted. A number of saw mills were built during the year in this district, to which proper boxes have been attached under the supervision and direction of Overseer Ross, for the purpose of preventing sawdust and other rubbish from going on the water. There appears to be another nuisance which the law does not provide against; the chaff and shelling from grist mills being allowed to drift in the streams and rivers.

SEPCIAL REPORT ON THE WANTS AND STATE OF FISH-WAYS IN THE WESTERN COUNTIES OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Early in the month of July last I received instructions from P. S. Hamilton, Esq. Inspector of Fisheries for Nova Scotia to make a tour of the Counties of Cumberland, Colchester and Pictou. Before I had gone over these counties, however, I was instructed to meet the Commissioner of Fisheries in Halifax, from whom I received instructions to inspect Halifax, Lunenburg, Queen's, Shelburne, Annapolis, King's, Hants and Pictou Counties, which I proceeded to do, and beg most respectfully to report as follows:—

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Wallace River, formerly one of the finest salmon and trout streams in this county, has been completely ruined by mill-dams. It had been exempted from the operation of the Fishery Laws by the local authorities, under the Nova Scotia Act; but as this Act was repealed last winter, I compelled the owner of the two lower dams to construct good ladders, and as there are a few stray fish still in the river, I hope they will find their way up stream. With a little assistance from the hatching house at Bedford Basin this stream may again become as productive as it was in former years, especially as the lumbering facilities thereon have been exhausted. It will be necessary to appoint a Warden on this stream. The mill dam at Oxford on the River Philip being entirely constructed of brush and gravel it was found very difficult to construct a proper fish-pass and have it fastened so that the ice will not take it away in the spring. Last year one fish-pass was built under the mill, but the fish for some unaccountable reason will not take to it, and another will have to be constructed next summer on the opposite side of the river. There are fish-passes on the two dams next above Oxford. The fish-way on Brownell's dam on the Shinemicas River was carried away by freshets. I notified the proprietors last summer to put up another, but the matter has not been attended to, and the water being too high when I returned home this fall to have one built, I will see to it in the spring. A Warden is much needed on the Pugwash River in this county. This stream was formerly a good alewife river, and although much reduced by abuse and neglect, sufficient fish still enter it to give hopes of its being enabled to be restocked with proper care.

The ladders in the western part of this county are in good order. One or two of them may require some improvements next summer. I will more fully attend to this matter next spring when the fish are in the river.

The close time for salmon fishing under the present amended Fisheries Act being from 15th August to 1st March amounts almost to a prohibition for the rivers emptying into the Strait of Northumberland, as the fish do not enter them until the latter part of September. I think some regulations might be made to allow the inhabitants to take fish under certain restrictions till the 15th October, as they do not spawn until after the 1st of November.

Mill-owners were notified that the statute against sawdust will be enforced next summer, and I expect a general compliance with the law whenever it can be done.

COLCHESTER COUNTY.

The fish-ways in this county are in good order, and the fish can ascend without any difficulty. A new fish-pass was put on the lower dam of Waugh's River last summer, and is working well. Previous to the enforcement of the amended Fisheries Act, salmon were caught on the sea shores with nets, and were thus wholly prevented from entering fresh water. This caused great dissatisfaction among the upper people; but the present law rectified all that, and the people are now satisfied. There were more salmon on Waugh's River this season than for the past fifteen years. Not a single case of poaching was detected, a state of things never known here before. The new fish-way in Balfour's mill-dam is a good one; the fish ascending to the spawning grounds without any difficulty, and no doubt that in a very few years salmon will be abundant.

HALIFAX COUNTY.

I made a pretty thorough inspection of this County, and found the fish-passes generally in a good state. At Lawrence Town the new aboideau built there obstructing the passage of fish at certain times of tide; I had a hole one foot square cut through one of the gates which will, I hope, remove the difficulty. There were some complaints made that fishermen were in the habit of setting nets entirely across the outlet of Porter's Lake and thus catch all the fish. This rumour was found to be but partially true, and the local Fishery Overseer, Mr. Anderson, will settle this matter in the spring so that no further trouble need be anticipated. Alewives and shad were unable to pass up stream through the fish-pass at Musquodoboit, although salmon went very well when the water was not too high. This difficulty was subsequently removed by making certain improvements pointed out by the Commissioner of Fisheries.

The fish-way on B. Young & Co.'s dam at Ship Harbor, admits of alewives and trout passing up stream over a dam eighteen feet high. Such being the case there can be no difficulty for salmon to pass also, as there is plenty of water for the purpose. Some persons contend that salmon do not go up; if this be true it is unaccountable, as no better pass can be constructed than the one in question. A new fish-way was built on the only dam across the Tangier River, situated ten miles in the woods. I examined it and found it good, and think that fish ought to go up without any difficulty. It was constructed under Mr. Anderson's directions, and differs a little from the model supplied by the Department, although I am inclined to think the difference will be an improvement. The fish-way on Chisholms and McFarlane's dam at Sheet Harbour is a good structure when kept in proper order. When I went there I found it in a bad state of repairs, but had it set right at once. About two hundred dollars should be expended on the west branch of this river in blasting and clearing away the rocks on the falls to improve the passage of fish up stream; it is a fine river, and that amount would be well invested in improving it.

The new fish-way on the dam across Mosher's River, built under Mr. Anderson's direction, is a good one, and fish of all kinds can ascend it easily. There is a good natural pass at Ecum Secum River, and no artificial one needed. Mill-owners in East Halifax were notified against violating the statute relative to saw dust and mill rubbish, and that offenders will be proceeded against next Spring. I have no doubt the law will be generally observed.

Good fish-ways have been put on all the dams on Indian and Ingraham Rivers by Messrs. Todd & Polley and Duncan & Webber, proprietors of the mills there, and their sawdust and mill rubbish is being legally disposed of. A fish-pass has also been constructed at Hubbard's Cove, which, I think, will answer, although it is not exactly as it should be. It will require fully two hundred dollars to open a proper passage for fish on the Nine Mile River, at Margaret's Bay. The small mill at the Negro settlement, on the Margaret's Bay Road, has not been provided with a ladder yet. I could not see the owner when there, he being from home, but will have it attended to in the spring. Sackville River requiring a grant of money from the Government to remove certain obstructions to the ascent of fish the question of passes was allowed to stand over until next summer, when the mill-owners will construct proper ones. There is an unobstructed passage for fish up the Shubenacadie River to the Lakes, but the river is over-crowded with nets during the fishing season. Overseer O'Brien, whose jurisdiction now extends to the Halifax County line, will look sharp after poachers.

LUNENBURG COUNTY.

I found the fish-ladders in this county mostly in good condition. That on Mushamush River is built strictly according to directions given; still, I think, it will answer the purpose. I deem it necessary to place night guardians on Gold and one or two other rivers in this county in order to prevent poaching. There are good ladders on Davison's two dams, on the Lahave. The new one built last year on the lower dam is good, but the old one on the same dam, near shore, has been allowed to go out of repair. The river is so wide here that both ladders ought to be kept in good repair. I caused a new fish-way to be constructed on Cook's dam, next above Davison's. There is so much lumbering done on this river that I fear the fish will not have much chance to increase for some years to come. During the fishing season the river is filled with logs from twenty to thirty miles, and so closely packed that fish can scarcely get through them. The obstruction on the Petite River was removed, and fish can now ascend the stream without any difficulty.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.

The Medway River is in good condition as regards fish-passes, and poaching is not now carried on as it used to be. The fish are rapidly increasing. The Liverpool River, I am sorry to say, is not doing so well, although the passes are good, but on account of their being located at one side of the river only a portion of the fish are unable to find them, and as the stream is a large one additional fish-ways have to be provided. Mr. Ford, the local Fishery Warden, was employed to construct one on the middle dam. One was also built on the lower dam, but before it was finished the water rose so high that the work had to be suspended until spring. Both of these ladders could have been put in at the same time had they not required Mr. Forde's personal inspection while being built. The completed one is a very superior structure, and I have no doubt will last for many years. Mr. Sellon is an active officer. He looks well after poachers and sees that the law is faithfully carried out. The sawdust question in this county is a very important one to mill-owners, involving them in a very heavy expense to have removed it or disposed of otherwise than by letting it fall into the rivers. They have been given until next summer to make such preparations as may be found necessary to enable them to comply with the law. They are informed that after this date, unless otherwise instructed, the law will be enforced.

SHELBURNE COUNTY.

With one or two exceptions, fish-ways in this county are in a very unsatisfactory state. At Jordan River there is a very good pass for fish around the end of the lower dam, but the ladder of the upper one had been torn out by the ice, and the water kept too high when I was there to have it repaired. Nothing can be done to it

until next summer. There is a good pass for alewives around the end of the dam on the Roseway River, but it does not answer for salmon, and the ladder will have to be repaired next year. The passes on the Clyde River are of little use; they were not properly built or located, and will have to be rebuilt next year. Mill-owners have been informed that persons throwing sawdust or mill rubbish in the rivers next year will be dealt with as the law directs. The water being too high in the rivers to allow of any repairs being done to fish-ladders, I did not proceed to Yarmouth and Digby, but returned to Halifax, in order to see that my instructions as to the construction of proper ladders were properly carried out, and to enable me to report on the work done, as directed by the Commissioner of Fisheries.

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.

I visited Mr. Morton's new mill on the Annapolis River, but the water was so high that I could not see the fish-way, built under Mr. Carty's direction; it being entirely under water. I doubt very much whether it will be of any use, because if properly built, it ought not at any time to be entirely covered with water. The ladder put on Mr. Beal's mill-dam, next above Morton's, under my direction, is a good one, and fish easily ascend it. There is also a ladder on a dam above the Nictaux Falls, built under Mr. Carty's directions, but it was covered with water so that I could not see it. I think, however, that it requires some improvements. Instructions to the Overseer in this county having issued from the Department some three or four years ago, to enforce the clauses of the Fisheries' Act, relative to saw dust and mill rubbish, mill-owners are keeping most of their stuff out of the streams.

KING'S COUNTY.

Only one river in this county is obstructed by mill dams—the Gasperaux—and Overseer Bishop looks sharply after it. The only dam now obstructing this river has a good fish-way on it, but it will require some repairs next summer.

HANTS COUNTY.

The fish-ways in Hants are all efficient, so far as I could judge without seeing the fish go up. The law relative to fish-passes was not enforced on the St. Croix River by Mr. Venning's directions, some years ago, and my own opinion is that it will be difficult to keep fish-ways in the dams on this river, owing to heavy ice freshets, and on account of the dams being very high. Fish-passes were built some five or six years ago, but were carried away next spring. Mr. Venning thereupon instructed Mr. Burnham to let things remain as they were until further orders.

PICTOU COUNTY.

Fish-ways in this county are a good deal out of repair. Those on the River John are entirely torn away, and will require to be re-built next summer.

The Provincial Officer, who ought to know more about the construction and location of fish-ladders than the local Overseers, should if at all possible visit each ladder once a year to see that they are kept all right, and know for himself when and where changes and improvements are required.

I am convinced that on most of the large streams a second, and in some cases a third ladder would be of great advantage, as a portion only of the fish seem to find the entrance on wide rivers—like the Lahave in Lunenburg, or the Mersey in Queen's. A thorough investigation on the state of fish-ways throughout the province of Nova Scotia should be had next summer, and I would strongly recommend that the inspecting officer, whoever he may be, should have a conveyance under his own control provided for him, and thus be enabled to visit all the streams, dams, &c., &c., much cheaper than by public conveyance, whilst he would also have plenty of leisure

to oversee the construction or examine the working of the passes, and be enabled to visit more readily the remote places—and in fact have more time at his disposal to make himself fully acquainted with the requirements of the district he visits. I am sorry I could not leave earlier in the season; more of the dams would have been supplied with improved ladders before the fall rains began. I would also recommend that the inspecting officer should commence his tour next year early in May, in order to follow the fish to the eastward, and thus see for himself where the ladders require improvement.

Alowives enter the rivers several weeks earlier at Yarmouth than they do in Cape Breton. The officer should, therefore, begin there.

The local fishery regulations in several counties will also require amendments; and it will be necessary to fix the boundaries between fresh and salt water, under the Fisheries Act; net-fishing being prohibited in fresh water on most of the large rivers. Proper attention to these and other matters, as well as a more accurate knowledge of the requirements of the fisheries, will well repay the expense of a tour throughout the whole Province. There is yet much to be learned, as well as much to be done in the way of improving the fisheries of the country.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. ROGERS,

Fishery Officer.

APPENDIX No. 13.

RETURN showing the Number, Tonnage and Value of Vessels and Boats engaged in the Fisheries, Quantity and Value of Fishing Material, Kinds and Quantities of Fish, and the Total Number of Men employed, &c., in the Province of Nova Scotia, for the Year 1875.

District.	VESSELS AND BOATS EMPLOYED IN FISHING.						FISHING MATERIAL.			KINDS OF FISH.						
	Vessels.			Boats.			Nets.			Salmon, barrels.	Salmon, fresh, in ice, lbs.	Salmon, smoked, lbs.	Salmon in cans, lbs.	Mackerel, barrels.	Mackerel, in cans.	Herrings, barrels.
	Number.	Tonnage.	Value.	Men.	Number.	Value.	Fathoms.	Value.	Number.	Value.						
Cumberland .....	.....	.....	\$	.....	41	\$	136	2915	3475	10	314	19850	.....	33	.....	1720
Colchester .....	.....	.....	1775	136	.....	3475	22927	8900	29	8900	20300	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Hants .....	.....	.....	3405	231	119	4460	6200	720	7	720	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	82
Kings .....	.....	.....	1950	70	38	2750	11628	2280	30	2280	5300	.....	.....	25	.....	5980
.....	.....	.....	1232	266	62	4730	6353	3216	14	1195	3000	.....	.....	.....	.....	5735
.....	.....	.....	4830	339	173	14800	20770	4050	25	4050	5100	.....	.....	381	400	8570
Annapolis .....	.....	.....	19000	1106	568	7680	13880	.....	.....	.....	12950	.....	.....	4675	.....	2076
Digby	100	1818	66700	1169	568	7680	13880	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76	.....	3385
Yarmouth	78	3419	140250	908	359	9153	129703	32479	9	9400	29970	.....	.....	21300	300	18700
Shelburne	74	3225	134600	806	913	28162	18680	10753	.....	.....	6350	2150	.....	14090	.....	22571
Queens	10	461	39900	123	315	7436	263300	137800	.....	.....	128885	.....	.....	34	.....	399
Lunenburg	102	5610	276200	1343	1592	55000	184090	40826	.....	.....	68945	.....	.....	39	.....	2460
Halifax	72	1674	49175	61459	1841	1232	147	11549	8702	.....	142000	600	70000	15950	5016	16182
Pictou .....	.....	.....	13920	132	202	5800	16000	8060	.....	120	8362	280	960	15950	5016	16182
Antigonish	10	464	13920	132	202	5800	16000	8060	.....	120	8362	280	960	15950	5016	16182
Guy'sborough	45	2064	64650	246	963	26248	155730	87609	60	1450	174	4400	300	15950	5016	16182
Richmond	79	2860	84300	651	838	18375	103490	45275	.....	.....	192	4400	300	15950	5016	16182
Cape Breton	16	477	660	110	480	12730	40891	20123	.....	.....	200	10420	13000	4666	8864	6429
Victoria	11	215	4300	51	483	9940	916	15818	.....	.....	145	.....	2240	3805	6820	4135
Inverness	17	577	14427	140	225	20600	37735	16756	30	131	256	.....	.....	5238	.....	3145
Total	615	22864	882422	5813	8619	284227	1073455	465312	204	28439	1335	16330	124600	91235	21400	121338

RETURN showing the Number, Tonnage and Value of Vessels and Boats engaged in the Fisheries, &c.—Continued.

District.	KINDS OF FISH.														FISH PRODUCTS.				Value.	
	Herrings, smoked, in boxes.	Mullet, barrels.	Cod, cwt.	Cod Tongues and Sounds, barrels.	Pollack, cwt.	Hake, cwt.	Haddock, lbs.	Halibut, lbs.	Shad, barrels.	Bass, lbs.	Trout, lbs.	Smelt, lbs.	Reis, barrels.	Oysters, barrels.	Lobsters, cans.	Fish Oil, gallons.	Fish Guano, tons.	Fish used as manure, barrels.		\$	cts.
Cumberland.....	100	832	1260	.....	550	510	.....	5600	1920	550	3450	12200	.....	60	274000	432	25	.....	108,193	30
Colchester.....	300	90	150	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3022	200	2720	25200	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	10	31,772	70
Hants.....	150	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	950	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120	.....	.....	9,393	50
Kings.....	38 0	600	1375	.....	250	100	25000	.....	805	.....	1500	4000	20	.....	.....	33	.....	.....	44,095	20
Annapolis.....	33550	20	1450	.....	511	1180	8200	43100	10	2000	1200	26000	42	12	9500	1900	352	200	58,453	50
Digby.....	7500	.....	36890	278	15946	5900	760007	20200	1200	.....	400	26000	357	.....	.....	39423	241	.....	362,664	87
Yarmouth.....	.....	5463	69778	7	2872	.....	210150	34150	8	.....	3260	25400	.....	.....	.....	21278	241	.....	376,594	80
Shelburne.....	.....	1229	66112	81	5140	.....	1366227	150000	.....	.....	.....	.....	51	.....	1156000	50450	.....	.....	770,261	62
Queens.....	.....	463	14165	.....	230	.....	855500	234300	40	.....	16160	11600	135	.....	238000	12803	.....	.....	151,934	60
Lunenburg.....	.....	866	77550	350	12390	5070	585500	234300	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	172000	58734	117	513	820,875	70
Halifax.....	.....	234	41698	247	267	.....	184984	56175	.....	.....	.....	120600	91	.....	1163300	23313	.....	.....	757,718	74
Pictou.....	.....	.....	221	.....	.....	55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9000	12	152	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,213	50
Antigonish.....	.....	940	1950	10	.....	1500	58100	.....	.....	.....	600	400	250	1400	600	910	82	.....	117,615	00
Guysborough.....	.....	440	23250	10	85	300	10310	71900	.....	.....	16 00	3000	10	.....	1135464	13975	.....	.....	630,561	05
Richmond.....	.....	1280	33208	142	530	480	23420	10200	20	.....	1240	7400	475	10	274020	44253	.....	80	517,994	05
Cape Breton.....	.....	550	32370	.....	.....	.....	197000	57300	1	.....	5100	29600	237	11	89110	21069	.....	.....	286,757	45
Victoria.....	.....	.....	17910	.....	.....	100	128800	2370	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11128	10571	.....	.....	152,773	85
Inverness.....	300	200	60005	76	.....	1490	124340	6620	.....	.....	5000	90900	51	.....	1000	22102	.....	.....	359,978	15
Total.....	45700	13237	484342	1201	38771	16685	3845278	556915	7976	2750	56630	365300	1731	1655	4524122	321366	817	1353	\$5,573,851	58

RECAPITULATION

Of the Yield of the Fisheries of Nova Scotia during the year 1875.

Kinds of Fish.	Quantities.	Prices.	Value.
		\$ cts	\$ cts.
Codfish	484,342 cwt.....	4 25	2,058,453 50
Herring	121,338 brls	4 00	485,352 00
do smoked	45,700 bxs	0 25	11,425 00
Mackerel	91,235 brls.....	10 00	912,350 00
do. preserved.....	21,400 cans.....	0 15	3,210 00
Haddock	3,845,278 lbs	0 06	230,716 68
Pollock	38,771 cwt.....	3 50	135,698 50
Hake	16,685 do	3 50	58,397 50
Halibut	556,915 lbs.....	0 06	33,414 90
Salmon, pickled	1,335 brls	18 00	24,030 00
do fresh, in ice.....	465,232 lbs.....	0 15	69,784 80
do smoked.....	16,330 do	0 15	2,449 50
do preserved	124,600 cans	0 25	31,150 00
Alewives	13,237 brls.....	3 50	46,329 50
Trout	56,630 lbs.....	0 06	3,397 80
Smelt	365,300 do	0 06	21,918 00
Shad	7,976 brls.....	8 00	63,808 00
Eels	1,731 do	9 00	15,579 00
Bass	2,750 lbs.....	0 06	165 00
Oysters	1,655 brls.....	3 00	4,965 00
Lobsters	4,524,122 cans	0 25	1,131,030 50
Fish Guano	817 tons	15 00	12,255 00
Fish used as manure	1,353 brls.....	0 50	676 50
Cod Tongues and Sounds.....	1,201 do	7 00	8,407 00
Fish Oils	321,366 galls.....	0 65	208,887 90
			\$5,573,851 53

APPENDIX No. 14.

REPORT OF W. H. VENNING, ESQ., INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES FOR THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK, FOR THE YEAR 1875.

ST. JOHN, N. B., 31st December, 1875.

Hon. A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

SIR,—The reports and returns of the local fishery officers show a falling off in the total catch of last season as compared with that of the previous one. This decline is almost wholly attributable to the very small catch of salmon, which has been universal this year. Similar reports of a partial failure of the salmon fishery reach us from Europe, and is attributed to some natural causes not yet understood.

RESTIGOUCHE COUNTY.

The opening of the season was very unfavourable for salmon fishing, owing to high freshets which prevented the setting of nets as early as usual. Overseer Ferguson reports that in the lower part of the river the largest run of fish passed up before nets could be set. The low price offered for salmon no doubt had a discouraging effect on the exertions of many fishermen, but still all accounts agree in reporting a very bad season for salmon in this county. Overseer McMillan states that he found it impossible to get full returns, and expresses his conviction that many fishermen did not give more than two-thirds of their actual catch. At present there are no means of compelling fishermen to give sworn statements of their catch, and short returns are made to avoid paying the tax. The low prices obtained for canned lobsters this season has caused a large decline in the pursuit of this fishery.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY.

In the upper part of this county, Overseer Hickson reports that the salmon fishery was not so good as it was last year, though the Salmon Beach district gave about an average yield. He also complains of the impossibility of getting full returns, and strongly urges the adoption of some means by which this result may be secured. He says it is difficult to tell to what extent the rivers in his county were stocked this fall, owing to the water keeping so high during the whole summer. In the spawning season the tributaries of the Nepissiguit were well supplied, but the main river was too high to know much about it. He fears that much of the ova has been deposited in places that will be dry when the water falls during the winter, and that it will be destroyed by the frost and ice. The Tetagauche was fairly stocked, as the fish went freely up the pass in the dam.

In the lower part of the county, Overseer Savoy reports a good catch of all kinds of fish. Of spring herrings there was more than an average catch, but the yield of alewives was less. The catch of codfish and mackerel was less than that of last year, owing to heavy winds which prevailed during the best fishing season. Fall herrings gave a fair average yield. Overseer Savoy says that the recent erection of beacon lights, at the several gullies along the coast has been of great service to the fishermen, and has on several occasions been the means of preventing loss of life and property. Some disturbances occurred last season among the fishermen on Caraquet and Shippegan herring banks, which have already been reported at length. The only

effectual remedy that I can suggest is an occasional visit from Commander Lavoie, as already recommended.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY.

The reports and returns from the Overseers of this county show a very large falling off from the catch of the previous season. While there is no doubt that the catch of salmon has been much smaller than last year, I am satisfied it was very much larger than shown by the returns. In this county, more than in any other, the Overseers have been unable to get correct returns; the great majority of fishermen positively refusing either to make a statement of their catch, or to pay the merely nominal license fee fixed by law. The herring fishery in the Bay gave less than an average return, owing to a late spring and unfavourable weather. The lobster fishery was good early in the season, but unfavourable winds rendered late fishing impracticable. Overseer Hogan reports that the bass fishery has been and still continues to be very good. Overseer Freeze, of the Doaktown district, reports a good run of salmon in September and October, and the high state of the water enabled them to ascend to their spawning grounds. Overseer Cameron, of the upper district of the south-west, reports a fine run of fish in the same months, and states that there has been much less poaching in his district than in former seasons.

The practice of seining alewives in the months of May and June is very destructive to breeding bass, large numbers of which are thus taken during the close season along with the alewives. As the latter fish can be just as well taken in set nets, (as indeed they are in all other rivers in the Province), I would strongly urge that seining for them be prohibited. But three or four individuals follow this destructive mode of fishing, and it is the opinion of the local officers, with which I quite agree, that were it not for the bass thus taken, the practice would be voluntarily abandoned. As the time for alewife fishing has been extended from the 15th to the 30th of June, this extension will be more than an equivalent for the prohibition of seining, so far as the catch of fish is affected.

From careful enquiries made during the summer, I am of opinion that bass fishing might be permitted in Napan Bay and River from opening of navigation until the 25th of May without serious injury to the fishery. At the breaking up of the ice in spring, bass enter this bay and river in pursuit of food, and remain until the middle or end of May. It would be a very great boon to the inhabitants of Napan, Black River and Chatham to be able to obtain this fine fish for home consumption, after a long winter, and at a time when fresh fish are not otherwise to be obtained. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend, that from the opening of navigation until the 25th May, bass fishing be allowed in Napan Bay and the river running into it, such fishing to be pursued only by set nets.

Autumn bass fishing should not commence until 1st October. Under pretence of fishing for bass after the 15th August, many salmon are taken in the lower part of the river, and the close time for the latter fish is thus evaded.

KENT COUNTY.

The returns from this county show a falling off from the catch of last year, the deficiency being in salmon, lobsters and alewives. Overseer Sutherland, of the upper district, says:—"The catch of salmon and alewives has been small owing to the 'scarcety of fish, which did not pass along shore as usual. The lobster fishery, though 'fairly successful, falls short of last year's yield. Cod, mackerel and herrings gave an 'average return.'" Overseer Cormier, of the lower district, reports about an average catch of cod and mackerel, but a large increase in that of herrings.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY.

The only fisheries pursued to any extent in this county are for lobsters on the coast, and for shad in Dorchester Bay. Herring and mackerel are taken in Shediac Bay

in quantities sufficient for home consumption, but none are exported. Considerable quantities of these fish are consumed in this and King's Counties, but it is impossible to get complete returns of the yearly catch. Overseer Deacon reports that salmon are becoming more numerous in Shediac River, and will require close attention to prevent destruction by poachers. The lobster fishery is being pursued with considerable vigor, and the returns show a large catch. The shad fishery yielded above an average catch, and the quality was better than usual. Overseer Davidson, of Bay Verte district, reports the establishment of a lobster canning house, near the mouth of Tidnish river, which did a fair business. The herring fishing in the bay was not so good as last season, owing to the late breaking up of the ice. Bass are becoming more plentiful in Tidnish river, but are caught only with hook and line for home consumption.

ALBERT COUNTY.

Overseer Akerley reports a slight falling off in the catch of shad in this county owing to a very late spring, but he states that the quality was very superior. Herrings were plentiful, but this fishery is pursued only for home consumption, and the quantity taken was small. Salmon and alewives continue to increase in German-town Lake, and promise to become as plentiful as formerly. As in all other localities, salmon were scarce in all the rivers in this county. He reports the fish-ways in good order on Coverdale, Pollet and Salmon Rivers; that on Point Wolf River he found defective, and ordered repairs which will be made next season.

VICTORIA COUNTY.

Overseer McCluskey reports as follows:—"I am pleased to inform you that this season salmon have been more plentiful in the Tobique than for many years past, and the height of the water has been favourable to their protection. The spawning grounds up the Serpentine have been well stocked, and there is reason to hope that this river will continue to improve." I am strongly of opinion, however, that the improvement in this river has been caused by the very small quantity caught in the Counties of York and Carleton, where running logs and mill-rubbish prevented nets from being set.

CARLETON COUNTY.

Overseer Harrison reports a great falling off in the yield of fisheries in this county, which he attributes to two causes; first the great quantities of logs running during the fishing season, second; the vast quantities of saw-dust and mill rubbish thrown into the river from the thirty-three saw and shingle mills in that county. He says:—"Many of the fishermen would not give me any account of the number of fish caught by them, stating that as the law could not be carried out against the mill-owners, it could not be enforced against them. I have endeavoured, to the best of my ability to get as near the quantity as possible." I submitted a special report from Overseer Harrison on this subject, and as I can rely on his statement, I would respectfully ask for it your early attention. I have in former reports expressed my conviction that the rigid enforcement of the saw-dust law is absolutely necessary to prevent the speedy destruction of the salmon fisheries on the St. John River.

YORK COUNTY.

Wardens Campbell and Brown report the worst fishing season they have ever known in this county, which they attribute to running logs during the whole summer. These and the refuse from mills above are no doubt seriously injuring the fishing in the whole course of the county, and but little inducement is offered to pursue it.

SUNBURY, QUEEN'S AND KING'S COUNTIES.

The fisheries in these, as well as in the two counties above, are pursued only for local consumption by the inhabitants near the river and lakes. Salmon, shad and alewives

are some years taken in sufficient quantities to supply the local demand. The reports for this season show a falling off in all kinds, but principally in salmon. The altered condition of all the streams and their surroundings in these counties, the settlement of the country and the clearing away of the forests have had the usual effect of gradually diminishing the supply of fish, and no reasonable hopes can be entertained of ever restoring these waters to their former productive state.

SAINT JOHN COUNTY.

The returns from this county show a falling off from the catch of last year which was exceptionally good, but still they show more than an average yield. The falling off has been principally in alewives and herrings, while the catch of salmon has nearly equalled that of last year. Overseer O'Brien makes the following remarks upon the harbour and outside fisheries:—"To make the gaspereau fishing prosperous it is necessary that there should be an early and strong freshet, which causes the 'falls' to run downwards continually while it lasts. The water being then very cold, the fish are numbed and unable to force their way up, consequently they approach the shores where they are taken in great quantities in the weirs and nets. Twenty-five or thirty years ago half the number of fishermen caught as many fish as are now taken, but this is not evidence that the fish are only half as numerous. Several causes are at work to bring about this result. The first and most prominent is the drifting of nets outside of the harbour and many miles below Partridge Island, which thirty years ago was never thought of, but is now extensively prosecuted both for salmon and gaspereau. About 100 boats are engaged in this mode of fishing, with an average of about 500 fathoms of net to each. It is obvious that so immense a quantity of net running in every direction must break up the schools of fish that are working towards the river. The area of the bay is so large, and the fish spread out so much, that this outside fishery is not so profitable as might be supposed. This mode of fishing, by breaking up the schools, causes the fish to enter the harbour in a scattering manner, and renders it difficult for harbour fishermen to secure them in large quantities. Inside the harbour another cause operating against the catch is at work. The noise and disturbance made by the great number of steamboats plying to and fro, frightens the fish and makes them swim below the bottom of the nets, especially during the freshet."

In St. Martin's District Overseer Skillen reports a better catch than that of last season. The fish-way in Salmon River dam has been a great success, and a large number of salmon has passed up during the season. Saw dust and mill-refuse have been a cause of complaint, but the mill-owners have promised to make arrangements to remove the evil as far as possible.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY.

The reports from this county are of a very satisfactory character in some respects, but in others they are discouraging, especially as regards the mills on the St. Croix River. The returns show a large increase over those of last years. Overseer Curran of the St. Croix district reports as follows:—"It gives me pleasure to inform you that the increase of salmon in the St. Croix is now visible. Numbers have been seen up the river, and they have got into the lakes and Tomah stream. Several young salmon have been killed by getting into the mill-wheels when coming down the river. The worst thing they have now to contend with is the saw-dust and mill-rubbish. On the American side of the river the authorities will not prosecute mill-owners, and this season I have not prosecuted any on the New Brunswick side. I have had a great deal of trouble to keep the fish-ways clear, and if some arrangement is not made to enforce the law on *both* sides of the river, it will be useless for me to try to stop the pollution of the water and the obstruction of navigation. Last spring great quantities of herring came into the river and Oak Bay, and large numbers were taken in the brush-weirs. Alewives and smelts were very plentiful this season. On the

Denis stream they were so numerous that the people of the surrounding county had all they wanted for home consumption, and many persons peddled them around the towns. This stream is now well supplied in its whole length, and I allowed fishing on Tuesdays and Fridays of each week, which gave general satisfaction. There is no doubt that if mill-rubbish could be kept out of the main river, it would also be re-stocked."

Overseer Cunningham of the Inner Bay district gives a favourable account of the fisheries under his charge. He reports that in addition to great abundance of summer and winter herring, mackerel made their appearance in the bay in August, for the first time in many years. Unfortunately the fishermen were not prepared for these unusual visitors, and but a small quantity were taken.

Overseer Lord, of West Isles district, reports a fair average catch of cod, but a decrease in that of hake and pollock. The summer and winter herring fishery has been exceedingly good and rather above an average. Overseer Brown, of Campo Bello, reports favourably of the herring and hake fishing in his district, which exceeded that of last year.

Overseer McLaughlin of Grand Manan reports a large increase in the catch of herrings for smoking, the quality of which was superior to those of last year. Herrings for pickling were not so plentiful, owing, he thinks, to the coldness of the water, which kept them off shore. The returns show an increase in the catch of cod, but a decrease in that of pollock. The falling off in the catch of lobsters is the natural consequence of the want of sufficient protection for this shell-fish, and I have no doubt that the same result will soon be visible in all localities where this fishery is prosecuted, unless a larger measure of protection is afforded. In reference to this matter Overseer McLaughlin makes the following remarks with which I entirely agree:—"In addition to a close time from July till the following March, lobster traps should be made so that all under nine inches in length can escape from them, and traps to be set until inspected and marked by the local Overseer. This would prevent, in a great measure, the violation of the regulation respecting small lobsters, which I have reason to believe is evaded to the great injury of this valuable fishery." Mackerel made their appearance in the waters of Grand Manan this season, and several hundred barrels were caught in herring weirs. Overseer McLaughlin urges the appointment of a Warden at White Head Island, and another at North Head to prevent the deposition of "gurry" on the herring grounds. His own presence is required at the spawning grounds at Southern Head, and he cannot personally attend to this duty. I would respectfully recommend that the salary paid to the late Overseer, Lorenzo Drake, (who performed this duty) be divided between two Wardens in these localities, whose duty it shall be to see that the law respecting "gurry" is strictly enforced, as nothing is more destructive to the herring fishery than the pollution of the waters to which they resort.

— Since the Fisheries Act of 1868 has been in force, vigorous efforts have been made to carry out its provisions respecting the pollution of streams by saw-dust and mill rubbish. These efforts have been met by determined opposition of influential mill-owners, and it has, in many cases, been found impossible, owing to circumstances unconnected with the law, to compel compliance with its requirements. The matter is one of vital importance to the fisheries and the navigation of all our large rivers, and I respectfully ask for the following remarks your favourable consideration.

There can be no doubt that the operations of saw-mills at a time when there was no law compelling the erection of fish-ways or prohibiting mill refuse from being thrown into the streams, have caused many of our rivers that once abounded with migratory fish, to become entirely deserted by them. In fact this is the case with by far the greatest number of our smaller rivers and streams at the present time, and the same causes are operating to depopulate our larger and more important rivers. These milling operations are now threatening to undo all that has been done to restock the River St. Croix. After fish-ways have been built in all the dams, and salmon and

alewives have begun to ascend to their old spawning places, sawdust and mill refuse bid fair to render useless all that has been accomplished. In the County of Careleton, on the Upper Saint John, there are some thirty-three saw and shingle mills, and the whole of their refuse is allowed to pass into the river. Already this has had a visible effect upon the salmon fishing in its whole extent, for the further the fish ascend after passing Fredericton the worse do they find the water, and the sawdust is fast covering up the beds upon which the salmon were accustomed to spawn. There can be no doubt that if this continues, but a few years longer, the salmon fisheries of the whole river, harbour and bay will be destroyed. When it is considered that mill-owners have only a life interest in their operations, it seems unreasonable to allow them to destroy, for their own immediate profit, the heritage of future generations—one of the richest gifts of a beneficent Providence. In view of these facts I would respectfully urge that all fishery officers be sustained in their efforts to compel mill-owners to comply with the law respecting sawdust and mill refuse, and that steps be taken to secure the co-operation of the Fishery Commissioner of Maine, so that the law may be enforced on both sides of the river St. Croix.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

W. H. VENNING,
Inspector of Fisheries, N. B.

RETURN showing the Number, Tonnage and Value of Vessels and Boats engaged in the Fisheries, &c.—Continued.

DISTRICT.	KINDS OF FISH.											FISH PRODUCTS.				VALUE.				
	Herrings, smoked, in boxes.	Alewives, barrels.	Cod, cwt.	Cod Tongues and Sounds, barrels.	Pollock, cwt.	Hake, cwt.	Haddock, lbs.	Halibut, lbs.	Shad, barrels.	Bass, lbs.	Trout, lbs.	Smelt, lbs.	Eels, barrels.	Oysters, barrels.	Lobsters, cans.		Fish Oil, gallons.	Fish Guano, tons.	Fish used as manure, barrels.	\$	cts.
Restigouche		5680	91072	408	.....	2710	11400	3300	.....	.....	10000	1000	30	.....	72334	.....	.....	1000	51,508	50
Gloucester	500	1888	2000	20	.....	2286	.....	.....	.....	2100	9920	25880	968	4000	426800	17891	.....	1600	729,061	20
North'mb'r'd		685	1418	.....	137	245	8500	.....	2134	99400	12800	51400	38	3000	147512	1600	.....	570	248,904	30
Kent	1600	200	50	.....	45	40	1000	.....	2405	3000	5500	258000	115	2520	822000	775	.....	200	330,241	35
Westmore'nd	260	60	11	.....	7	300	6200	1800	.....	625	16000	5000	.....	.....	201800	80	.....	.....	122,187	00
Albert .....				.....					120	.....	1400	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	.....	.....	10,180	25
Victoria .....				.....					.....	.....	600	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,024	00
Cartier .....				.....					.....	546	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,388	00
York .....				.....					.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	404	76
Kings		5703	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	97	2750	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21,629	00
Queens' .....				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarbury		18800	610	.....	160	50	90	.....	1000	4000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170,422	90
St. John	593940		14179	586	5631	24186	823469	11000	.....	.....	500	.....	.....	.....	81600	47997	180	1000	738,702	90
Charlotte .....				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6419½	124036	60490	1086280	1241	10020	1752046	68643	180	4370	2,427,654	16
Total	596300	33016	109340	1014	5980	29817	850650	16100	6419½	124036	60490	1086280	1241	10020	1752046	68643	180	4370		

RECAPITULATION

Of the yield of the Fisheries of New Brunswick, during the year 1875.

Kinds of Fish.	Quantities.	Price.	Value.
		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Codfish.....	109,340 cwt.....	4 25	464,695 00
Herrings.....	126,495 brls.....	4 00	505,980 00
do smoked.....	596,300 boxes.....	0 25	149,075 00
Mackerel.....	6,137½ brls.....	10 00	61,375 00
do preserved.....	39,980 cans.....	0 15	5,997 00
Haddock.....	850,650 lbs.....	0 06	51,039 00
Pollock.....	5,980 cwts.....	3 50	20,930 00
Hake.....	29,817 do.....	3 50	104,359 50
Halibut.....	16,100 lbs.....	0 06	996 00
Salmon, pickled.....	2,299 brls.....	18 00	41,382 00
do fresh in ice.....	1,021,789 lbs.....	0 15	153,268 35
do smoked.....	41,550 boxes.....	0 15	6,232 50
do preserved.....	333,412 cans.....	0 25	83,353 00
Alewives.....	33,016 brls.....	3 50	115,556 00
Trout.....	60,490 lbs.....	0 06	3,629 40
Smelt.....	1,086,280 lbs.....	0 06	65,176 80
Shad.....	6,419½ brls.....	8 00	51,356 00
Eels.....	1,241 brls.....	9 00	11,169 00
Bass.....	124,036 lbs.....	0 06	7,442 16
Oysters.....	10,020 brls.....	3 00	30,060 00
Lobsters.....	1,752,046 cans.....	0 25	438,011 50
Fish Guano.....	180 tons.....	15 00	2,700 00
Fish, used as manure.....	4,370 brls.....	0 50	2,185 00
Cod Tongues and Sounds.....	1,014 brls.....	7 00	7,098 00
Fish Oils.....	68,643 galls.....	0 65	44,617 95
			\$2,427,654 16

APPENDIX No. 16.

SYNOPSIS OF FISHERY OVERSEERS' REPORTS IN THE PROVINCE OF
ONTARIO, FOR THE SEASON OF 1875.

CORNWALL, PRESCOTT, BROCKVILLE AND GANANOQUE DIVISIONS.

JOHN MOONEY, } Overseers.
HUGH THOMPSON }

JOHN WALLACE, } Guardians.
HENRY HUNT, }
JOS. L. THOMPSON, }

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Pike and bass, brls.	41	60	35	6
Pickerel, brls.	17	14	17	.....
Coarse fish, brls.	45	108	158	400
Total.....	103	182	210	406
Value	\$515	\$910	\$1,050	\$2,030

The experiment of allowing no fishing with nets, spears or set-lines, between Gananoque and Cornwall, which proved so beneficial in 1874, was continued during the season of 1875 and the result is most satisfactory.

The only serious difficulty which is now met with in this division is want of uniformity between the fishery laws of the United States and those of the Dominion.

KINGSTON DIVISION,—WOLFE AND AMHERST ISLAND.

P. KIEL, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.	310	151	302	694
do lbs. ....	.....	1,500	.....	.....
do per 100 lbs. ....	.....	3,950	.....	.....
Trout, brls.	554	418	272	325
Herring, brls.	12	12	.....	12
Pike and bass, brls.	77	182	591	317
Pickerel, brls.	27	56	110	172
Coarse fish, brls.	168	217	639	647
Total	1,146	1,036	1,914	2,167
Value	\$8,310	\$8,945	\$11,100	\$15,942

The number of men engaged fishing last season was eighty-three, or twenty-three more than in 1874, and the material used as well as the quantity of fish caught have increased in the same ratio. Last summer, especially during June and July, whitefish were more numerous on their feeding grounds than ever before for many years past. Markets were over-stocked with fish and several fishermen had to give up fishing on account of the low rates of sale. There were 2,167 barrels of whitefish and salmon trout, &c., caught, valued at \$15,942, against 1,914 barrels caught in 1874, valued at \$11,100. The steady increase of fish on the several fishing grounds is, no doubt, due to practical enforcement of the fishery laws.

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY DIVISION.

JOHN G. HICKS,	} Overseers.
WM. PLEWS,	
W. A. PALEN,	
PETER HUFF, JR.,	
DAVID CONGER,	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in the division.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.	1,449	1,095	1,242	1,834
do fresh, lbs. ....	.....	324,709	84,611	.....
do fresh, No. ....	.....	27,022	112	.....
Trout, brls.	148	194	192	430
Herring, brls.	140	195	.....	10
Pike and bass, brls.	150	60	71	54
Pickrel, brls.	15	.....	7	77
Coarse fish, brls.	5	.....	5	67
Maskinonge, brls. ....	.....	.....	2	58
Sciscos ....	.....	.....	.....	8
Total	1,907	1,554	1,519	2,538
Value	\$15,118	\$16,877	\$14,670	\$24,288

The statistical reports of this division show a general increase in the yield of the fisheries.

Overseer Hicks reports that the yield of the fisheries in his division would have been in excess of the figures given, had it not been for the scarcity of money which compelled fishermen to hang up their nets most of the time on account of finding no buyers for their fish. The close season was well observed, and although fishermen felt at first annoyed at being stopped from fishing earlier than usual, they now acknowledge the good effect of the regulations enacted last season, fixing new dates for the close seasons. Whitefish is on the increase in this division, and a good trade is carried on with the United States. Two small schooners are kept running twice a week across the lake with cargoes of fresh fish, and make a good-paying business of it.

Overseer Plews reports that whitefish is sensibly increasing. The close-season was well observed, and fishermen declare themselves satisfied with it.

Overseer Huff reports that the number of men engaged in net and seine-fishing in this division is about the same as in 1874. There was a decrease in the catch of

whitefish, owing to the stoppage of seine fishing in July. The catch of salmon trout is the largest which has been noticed for twenty years past. Fishery laws are well complied with.

Overseer Conger reports that the catch in this division amounted to about 172 barrels of whitefish and 111 barrels of salmon trout. These fish are generally sold at Belleville.

LENNOX AND ADDINGTON DIVISIONS.

HUGH RALSTON, *Overseer.*

Statement of the number, kinds and value of the fish caught in this division during the year 1875:—

	Brls.	Value.
Whitefish.....	46	\$460 00
Trout.....	6	60 00
Herring	4	24 00
Seiscos.....	10	65 00
Maskinonge.....	8	40 00
Bass	52	260 00
Pike.....	92	460 00
Pickarel.....	114	570 00
Coarse fish.....	344	1,720 00
	<u>676</u>	<u>\$3,659 00</u>

This Overseer reports the fishery laws as being well complied with in his division, except in the back lakes, where he apprehends poaching is carried on to a certain extent. He feels, nevertheless, confident to be enabled to put a stop to these illegal practices with energy and perseverance. Mill-dams in this division are all provided with fish-ways, or will be so early in the spring of 1876; the mill-owners having all been duly notified to this effect.

BAY OF QUINTE DIVISION.

CHAS. WILKINS, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries of this division.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.....	90	77	232	834
Trout, brls.....		20		
Herring, brls.....	3,075	2,711	1,251	1,935
Pickarel, brls.....		120		
Coarse fish.....	450	1,250	595	165
Total.....			2,078	2,934
Value.....	\$13,200	\$22,588	\$12,090	\$19,005

The quantity of fish caught in this division during the present season is greatly in excess of that of last year. The quantity of whitefish, especially, is more than double. The fish were of a large size and of superior quality. This satisfactory

state of things is attributed to the close season being well complied with and fixed at the proper time. There are at present twenty-four fish-ways in good condition within this division.

The salmon fry placed a few years ago in Trenton and Moira rivers by order of this Department begin to make their appearance in these streams and are looking remarkably well.

NORTHUMBERLAND DIVISION.

CHARLES GILCHRIST, *Overseer.*

The fishery laws were strictly enforced in this division last season. Having heard that inveterate poachers around Rice Lake were, as usual, making preparations for spring operations and boasted they would fish in spite of any one or anything, the local Fishery Overseer engaged assistants and divided that part of his division between them and himself. The result was that six boats or punts were seized, eleven spears and jacks confiscated, and six of the poachers heavily fined. A greater number would have met with punishment had they not blackened their faces and swam ashore when caught, in order to avoid detection and identification. These stringent measures effectually crushed illegal fishing. The Overseer is satisfied that there were not twenty fish killed with spear in these waters during last spring, and that next season, owing to the care bestowed on them this year and the beneficial effect of the heavy penalties imposed, he will be able to effectually guard Rice Lake with the assistance of a single guardian. Mr. Gilchrist also reports that he never saw the fish so plentiful on the spawning grounds as they were last spring.

Eighty-six permits to angle were granted during the season to residents, besides one hundred and four to gentlemen from the United States. Seventy Indians also availed themselves of a similar privilege.

ERIE, NIAGARA AND PART OF LAKE ONTARIO DIVISIONS.

J. W. KERR,
Jno. J. WILCOX. } *Overseers.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division :—

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.....	615	498	482	623
do lbs.....		93,958	96,500	
do per 100.....		466		
Trout, brls.....	166	55	99	43
Herring, brls.....	512	405	405	268
Sciscos, brls.....	219	288	134	188
Maskinonge, brls.....	8	12	42	77
Pike and Bass, brls.....	280	488	620	251
Pickarel, brls.....	261	444	723	156
Coarse fish.....	653	780	798	236
Total.....	2,714	3,436	3,303	1,842
Value.....	\$16,601	\$25,899	\$24,783	\$13,542

The catch of the present season shows a large falling off from that of last year owing to the fact that the number of fishermen and material employed were smaller

Another reason of failure is also to be found in the stormy weather which prevailed during the fishing season to a much greater extent than in 1874. The close season for the several kind of fish were strictly complied with. Railways and Express managers issued strict orders to their agents not to carry salmon, trout or whitefish during the close time. A very few contraventions of the laws occurred in this division, and these were rapidly discovered and effectually punished.

The largest and finest whitefish were caught in Lake Ontario, opposite the Township of Grimsby, and commanded the highest prices on the market. Lake Ontario salmon seemed to attract more attention on the part of fishermen at several places in Lake Ontario. One of these fish, weighing fifteen pounds, was caught at Toronto Island in a seine. Another, weighing two pounds, was caught at Burlington Beach in a herring gill net, and four near Four Mile Creek.

One spawning bed was discovered in Highland Creek last fall. The Big Rouge showed five and the Little Rouge three salmon beds, which is an increase over previous years. The salmon observed in Duffin's Creek were larger and more numerous than usual. Some of the fish noticed by the guardians appeared to be twenty pounds in weight. Sixty-three spawning beds were counted. The River Credit is reported by the local Overseer as being well stocked.

The saw mills on Twelve Mile Creek made alterations and improvements so as to stop sawdust and mill rubbish from falling into the stream.

GRAND RIVER DIVISION.

HENRY LAWE.
HENRY GRIFFITHS. } *Overseers.*

The various close seasons were well complied with and appear to give satisfaction to residents. Anglers report this year as having been one of the best for bass and pickerel fishing; and this improved state of things is attributed to the well-timed and well-observed close seasons.

NORFOLK, HALDIMAND AND ELGIN DIVISIONS—LAKE ERIE.

J. A. BACKHOUSE, } *Overseers.*
ALEX. MCBRIDE, }

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
White Fish, brls	235	174	73	182
do lbs.....		21,300		
do No.....		106		
Herrings, brls	82	96	163	1,027
Pike and Bass, brls.....	40	114	96	98
Pickerel, brls.....	212	136	129	724
Maskinonge, brls.....		10	19	52
Coarse Fish, brls.....	319	182	65	460
Total	888	812	545	2,543
Value	\$5,044	\$5,063	\$2,781	\$14,652

The above statement shows that the quantity of fish caught this year is greatly above that of last year. One of the causes of this increase is due to the fact that the Long Point Company increased the number of their pound nets' pots from four to eight, and that the pounds were set earlier than in 1874. A further cause, but of secondary importance, is the proper laying out of the fishery stations made last season, which materially increased the number of stands and allowed of more people being employed in fishing. The close seasons were strictly enforced. This beneficial result was attained by constant watching, night and day, on the part of the Overseer in charge and two assistants. The whole of this division, and especially that portion lying in front of the County of Norfolk, needs a great protection, for within its shores is situated what is called Inner Bay of Long Point. This bay forms a sheet of water, about seven by ten miles in extent, surrounded on three sides by marshes, extending several thousand acres, and interspersed with numerous and extensive ponds and creeks; the whole forming, at the proper season of the year, a vast spawning ground for the most valuable varieties of fish in Lake Ontario. Fish in large numbers enter this bay during spring in search of creeks, ponds for shallow waters, for the purpose of depositing their eggs, and afterwards retire into the lake so soon as the spawning season is over. Without proper care thousands of these breeding fish might be destroyed in a single night. Most of the fish caught in this division are sold for local consumption; the rest is sent to several cities and towns of Ontario and the United States.

RONDEAU DIVISION, LAKE ERIE.

JOHN McMICHAEL, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division:—

	1872	1873	1874	1875
White Fish, brls.....	125	138	53	109
Herring, brls.....	124	155	320	330
Pike and Bass, brls.....	30	10	63	63
Pickarel, brls.....	79	48	35	68
Coarse fish, brls.....			11	277
Total.....	358	351	419	847
Value.....	\$1,936	\$1,689	\$2,214	\$5,110

The quantity of fish caught in this division is double that of 1874, and this result is due to the greater number of men employed fishing, and to some of them being better prepared with boats and fishing tackle, but especially to the beneficial effect of the protection afforded by judicious close seasons and active guardianship.

DETROIT RIVER AND POINT PELÉE DIVISIONS.

EDWARD BOISMIER, *Overseer*ZENEAS QUICK, *Warden.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division:—

	1872	1873	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.....	2,993	2,655	2,794	2,214
do fresh. lbs.....		48,347	538,800	
Trout, brls.....		855		
Herring, brls.....	658	1,035	1,314	258
Pike and Bass, brls.....	93	111	780	73
Pickarel, brls.....		73		63
Coarse fish, brls.....		49		258
Sturgeon, brls.....		572	203	
Maskinonge.....			352	
Total.....	3,744	4,778	5,343	2,866
Value.....	\$42,333	\$61,776	\$65,790	\$25,658

There is a decrease in the yield of the fisheries of this division as compared with that of last year. This falling off is due to strong westerly gales which blew about the 15th October and drove the fish to bays on the American side of Lake Erie, and also to the severe weather which prevailed afterward and obliged fishermen on the Detroit River to give up fishing as early as the 12th November. Only two violations of the fishery laws were detected; the nets were seized and one of the violators fined.

LAKE ST. CLAIR AND THAMES RIVER DIVISIONS.

F. McRAE,
PETER McCANN, } *Overseers.*

The value of the yield of fisheries in this division for the past four years was as follows:—

In 1872.....	\$8,255
In 1873.....	8,877
In 1874.....	11,820
In 1875.....	13,704

The statistical returns show an increase in the value of the fisheries of this division. Overseer McCann nevertheless complains of failure which he attributes to the unusual thickness of the ice last winter, and to the large number of nets continually in use from Cashmere to the mouth of the Thames. Fish-ways were mostly all damaged by ice in the spring, but were repaired during the season.

SARNIA DIVISION.

D. McMASTER, *Overseer.*

The yield of the fisheries in this division is as follows:—

	1874.	1875.
White fish, brls.....	40	40
Herring, brls.....	2,019	2,114
Coarse fish, brls.....	353	....
Pickarel, brls.....	....	753
Trout, brls.....	....	8

Total.....	2,412	2,915
------------	-------	-------

Value	\$11,907	\$16,909
-------------	----------	----------

This division shows a noticeable increase in the yield of its fisheries. The law was well complied with, and fishermen seem satisfied with the dates chosen for the several close seasons. The value of fish used for home consumption is rated at \$10,000.

LAKE HURON DIVISION.

A. C. McKINNON, } *Overseers.*
JAMES MUIR, }

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division:—

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls	3,329	3,670	7,274	5,900
do lbs.....		732,000		
Trout, brls.....	1,276	1,180	6,259	1,871
Herring, brls.....	64	307	2,353	3,153
Bass, brls.....			32	23
Pickarel.....	124	82	103	75
Coasre fish.....	285			
Total.....	5,078	5,239	16,021	11,002
Value.....	\$36,737	\$34,415	\$146,635	\$96,998

The first part of this division extends from Kettle Point to Point Clark, and the second from Point Clark to Cape Hurd; the former being under charge of Mr. McKinnon, and the latter under that of Mr. Muir.

The statistical returns show a decrease on the season of 1874, which Overseer Muir attributes to the very severe winter experienced and the great thickness of the ice. This, together with the late opening of navigation, prevented early fishing, which began only about the 15th June, making it a very short season. Stormy weather, which prevailed nearly during the whole of the fall, had also the effect of destroying herring fishing at most stations.

No violation of the fishery law reported.

GEORGIAN BAY AND INDIAN RIVER PENINSULA DIVISIONS.

G. S. MILLER,
JAMES PATTON, } Overseers.
SAMUEL FRAZER,

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division :—

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.....	850	1,283	1,990	8,624
do fresh, lbs.....		2,000		
Trout, brls.....	440	1,622	2,910	317
Herring, brls.....		60	160	239
Sturgeon, brls.....	30			
Coarse fish.....		20	60	118
Total.....	1,320	2,985	5,120	9,298
Value.....	\$6,450	\$19,552	\$49,040	\$91,195

For some time past the Department had strong suspicions that illegal fishing was practised in the waters of Georgian Bay and in the neighborhood of Manitoulin Island. There were also good reasons to believe that a brisk trade in fish so illegally caught, was carried on from Collingwood and Owen Sound, between fishermen and traders in Toronto and Hamilton. For want of a sufficient staff, and owing, also, to the apathy of resident Overseers, no offences were established and no seizures made. Mr. John W. Kerr, Fishery Overseer at Hamilton, was therefore despatched to the locality, with instructions to investigate the matter. He was directed to place himself in communication with the present Overseers,—Messrs. Frazer, at Midland, Patton at Collingwood, and Miller at Owen Sound. The immediate result of such a measure was the seizure of 408 packages of fresh whitefish and salmon-trout on board the schooner *Restless*, caught by fishermen and Indians during the close season; twenty packages on board the steamer *William Seymour*, and five boxes on board the steamer *Silver Spray*.

The captains and pursers were prosecuted, and pleaded guilty. They were fined five dollars each, and costs. The fish were confiscated and sold.

The following parties were also convicted of having fished for whitefish and salmon-trout, during the close season in Georgian Bay, and fined as follows:—Benjamin Dempsey, \$10; Kenneth Mackay, \$5; Robert Doherty, \$10; John Ferguson, \$5; John Foley, \$10; William Howley, \$5; William Bishop, \$10; Andrew Port, \$10; William Shuter, \$10.

Nineteen other fisherment and two fish-dealers at Meaford were also prosecuted for the same offence. These cases are still pending.

Fishermen in this division have, up to this time, shown a tendency to evade the law, but it is hoped that the present prosecutions, together with a wise and moderate enforcement of the fishery regulations, which are so much to their own interest, and reflection on their part, will have a beneficial effect. Indeed, favourable signs in this direction are already apparent.

Fish were abundant during the whole season, and the increase in the catch was considerable. The only falling off is in the trout fishery, but fishermen say that there is no sensible decrease in the number of these fish.

MUSKOKA DIVISION.

WM. E. FOOT, Overseer.

Fish were more numerous in this district during the present season than last year, although trolling for bass, pickerel and lake trout was not so good. A visit to the Maganetewan and the south branch of the Muskoka River, as well as to Trading

Lake, however, amply repaid those who went there. These waters are much resorted to by anglers from the United States; some of whom are good sportsmen and most liberal, and desirable visitors to our waters. As a general rule they speak in high terms of the abundance of sport in the Muskoka region.

Abuse in this district are chiefly confined to spearing, but it is hoped that this will very soon be at an end, owing to the vigilance and energy displayed by the Overseer, as well as to the intelligence of the residents themselves, who will soon understand the benefits of protection.

There are no fish-ways in this division, and according to the Overseers report none are needed at present. The only place where a scarcity of fish is complained of is the north branch of Muskoka River, and this is due to natural obstructions and not to violations of the fishery law.

LAKE HURON DIVISION.

G. B. ABBEY, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division:—

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.....	3,923	2,047	3,332	3,110
Trout.....	2,182	1,751	2,305	3,815
Pickarel.....		1		1
Herring.....			200	30
Total.....	6,105	3,799	5,837	6,956
Value.....	\$42,735	\$22,807	\$57,370	\$69,435

The statistics of the past season compare favourably with those of 1874. It will be noticed that there is a slight falling off in whitefish; this is due to the shortening of the fishing season fixed by the Department, but this falling off is far more than made up by a large increase of the yield of lake trout. The quantity of fish used for home consumption may be estimated at 1,000 barrels.

LAKE SUPERIOR DIVISION.

JOSEPH WILSON, } *Overseer.*
JAMES DICKSON, }

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of fisheries in this division:—

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.....	1,958	2,275	2,580	2,117
do fresh, per 100 lbs.....		7,000		
Trout, brls.....	1,252	1,500	1,684	955
Pickarel.....	70			
Total.....	3,282	3,755	4,264	2,172
Value.....	\$19,384	\$18,045	\$42,640	\$21,720

Owing to its large extent, it was found necessary to divide this fishery district last summer; Mr. James Dickson being appointed Overseer for that portion of Lake Superior extending from the mouth of Pigeon River to Slate Island; the lower portion from Nepigon River to Thessalon River, remaining under charge of Mr. Wilson.

Overseer Wilson reports that he visited the fishery stations of his division, and found the law and fishery regulations well observed. There is no falling off in the yield of fish. The quantity of fish used for home consumption in this division is about 950 barrels, valued at \$5,700. Nepigon River afforded excellent sport last season, although the fish did not average as large as usual. Any amount of large speckled trout could be seen in deep water, but only the small ones would take the fly. Fifty-eight special fishery permits were issued to anglers in Nepigon River.

Overseer Dickson reports that a larger quantity of fish were taken in the spring than was usual in his division, but owing to the stormy weather which mostly prevailed during the fall, parties engaged in fishing were unable to visit their nets as often as they would have done had the weather been favourable. The stations at Fort William had to be abandoned, being deserted by the fish, owing probably to the dredging of the bar at the mouth of the river and the running of the steamboats. Victoria Island, Grand Shaganash and Roche Debout stations were used principally as fall fisheries; and as that part of the season was very stormy—the prevailing winds coming from the lake—the fish kept out in deep water. For these reasons the decrease in the yield of fishing in this division as shown by the above statement, is not to be wondered at. The law was well complied with.

LAKE SIMCOE DIVISION.

A. McKENZIE, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of fisheries in this division:

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Whitefish, brls.....	60		116	124
do No. fresh.....		4,940		
Trout, brls.....	46		308	347
do No. fresh.....		2,930		
Herring, brls.....	7		30	20
Maskinonge, brls.....		1		
Bass, brls.....		75		
Pickarel, brls.....		2		
Total.....	113	78	454	491
Value.....	\$1,010	\$1,677	\$4,390	\$4,830

The above statement shows a slight increase over the yield of last year. This increase would have been larger had it not been for stormy weather.

The close seasons were well observed, and give general satisfaction.

 LAKE SCUGOG DIVISION.

A. J. HARRINGTON, }
 JOHN McALLISTER, } *Overseers.*

The fish appeared to have suffered from the severity of the winter, and were not as numerous as formerly. The law was well observed. The fish-way at Lindsay is reported as inefficient, being situated in the wrong place.

CHARLESTON AND GANANOQUE DIVISIONS.

DAVID HAMILTON, *Guardian.*

The yield of the fisheries in this division is valued at about \$1,820. The fish are caught by residents, and mostly used for home consumption.

PETERBOROUGH AND VICTORIA DIVISIONS.

GEORGE COCHRANE, }
 JAMES SUTHERLAND, } *Overseers.*

The law was well complied with in this division. The fish, under vigilant guardianship, are reported as increasing in a sensible manner. Mr. Cochrane issued 209 permits to anglers during the season.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND LAKE DIVISION.

JAMES McFADDEN, *Overseer.*

Six nets and one spear were seized during last season for infraction of the fishery laws.

MADAWASKA RIVER AND LAKE DES CHATS DIVISION.

JOHN LYON, *Overseer.*

Fish were not so numerous this season as on previous years, owing principally to sawdust and mill rubbish, which has accumulated at the mouth of the Madawaska River and Lake des Chats. The law was otherwise well observed.

APPENDIX

RETURN of the Number and Value of Vessels, Boats, Nets, &c.
for the

STATION.	VESSELS AND BOATS EMPLOYED FISHING.									NETS, THEIR NUMBER, SIZE								
	Vessels.				Boats.			Gill Nets.			Seines.			Pound Nets.				
	No.	Tonnage.	Value.	Men.	No.	Value.	Men.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.		
			\$			\$				\$								\$
Gananoque.....					1	10	1	1	100	30								
Brockville.....					1	12	2	1	100	30								
Rockport.....					9	450	9											
<i>Wolfe Island Division.</i>																		
Bay of Quinte.....					1	30	2	10	100	40								
Amherst Island.....					19	863	38	304	3054	1216								
Pigeon Island.....					2	100	5	80	800	320								
Charity Shoals.....					2	160	4	40	400	160								
Long Point.....					2	160	4	86	855	344								
Simcoe Island.....					2	110	4	54	546	316								
Bayfield Bay.....					7	247	12	10	100	30								
Openicon Lake.....					1	35	2											
Cranberry Lake.....					1	40	2											
Howe Island.....					2	105	4											
Drowned Lands, Rideau Canal.....					2	60	4											
River St. Lawrence....					2	45	2	14	140	46								
<i>Prince Edward County Division.</i>																		
Petticoat Point to Point Traverse.....	2	40	400	4	11	220	22	90	4400	900								
Timber Island.....					2	40	4	16	800	160								
False Ducks and Gull Island.....					6	120	12	50	2400	500	1	18	50					
Main Ducks and York- shire Island.....					10	200	20	80	3200	640								
South Bay.....					8	100	16	70	2000	400								
Black River to Bongard Wharf.....							28	120	9000	850								
Point Peter.....					9	285	19	80	5320	1250								
Point Peter to West Point.....					20	510	73	398	7960	1296	6	490	1400					
Wellington Beach to Spencer Point.....					13	410	60		2300	115	6	480	825					
<i>Lennox and Addington Division.</i>																		
Captain Jones' Island..					1	20	2	1	50	10								
Eagle Lake.....					1	25	2	1	50	10								
Unger's Island.....					1	40	3				1	20	70					
Bass Cove.....					1	40	3				1	20	70					
Thompson's Point.....					1	30	2				1	16	50					

No 17.

together with the Yield and Value of Fish in the Province of Ontario.
year 1875.

VALUE, &C.				KINDS, QUANTITIES AND PRICES OF FISH.											VALUE.		TOTAL.		
Hoop Nets.		Scoop Nets.		White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	Trout, brls.	Herring, brls.	Sciscos, brls.	Maskinonge, brls.	Bass, brls.	Pike, brls.	Pickrel, brls.	Coarse Fish, brls.	Total No. of brls. of Fish.	Fresh.	Pickled.	Value.	
No.	Value.	No.	Value.													\$	\$	\$	
												3			3	15		15	
												3			3	15		15	
														400	400	2,000		2,000	
								12							16	112		112	
				4			201								852	8140		8140	
				575			46								46	460		460	
							31								31	310		310	
							31								8	930		930	
				59			16								10	82		770	
				56											39	298		2210	
76	1520										40	65			442	2210		2210	
15	300										15	13	2	40	70	350		350	
20	420										20	5	2	70	97	485		485	
29	580										28	37	29	58	152	760		760	
32	640										47	31		175	253	1265		1265	
											7	9	6	6	28	140		140	
				410			30	10	8		6		16	16	496	3707	1000	4707	
				80			30						5	4	119	861	284	1145	
				210			50						10	8	278	2421	269	2690	
				300			40						26	10	376	2685	895	3580	
				50			20				8	20	10	20	128	625	365	990	
				150			40				10	10			210	2000		2000	
				54			99								153	1530		1530	
				408											408	4080		4080	
				172			111						10		293	2604	276	2880	
				15			2							5	3	25	210		210
				5				4							9	74		74	
											3	2	4	12	10	31	155	155	
											2	3	6	11	15	37	185	185	
											2	2	8	16	12	40	200	200	

APPENDIX

RETURN of the Number and Value of Vessels, Boats, Nets, &c, for the

STATION.	VESSELS AND BOATS EMPLOYED FISHING.						NETS, THEIR NUMBER, SIZE,								
	Vessels.				Boats.		Gill Nets.			Seines.			Pound Nets.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Value.	Men.	No.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.
			\$			\$			\$			\$			\$
Hay Bay.....	1				15	3									
Napanee River.....	1				25	2									
Troumpour's Point.....	1				100	2	1	60	20						
Casey's Point.....	1				75	2	1	60	20						
Big Clear Lake.....	1				15	2	1	50	15						
<i>Bay of Quinte Division.</i>															
Point Ann.....	12				540	53		800	900	4	240	800			
Mud Creek.....	2				100	12				2	120	400			
Henessey Point.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Spencer's Point.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Tyendinaga.....	2				100	12				2	120	400			
Sydney.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Negro Island.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Zuick Island.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Ameliashburgh.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Lawrence Point.....	2				90	12				2	120	400			
Gull Island.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Bluff Point.....	2				100	12		290	200	1	60	200			
Long Point.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Salmon Island.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Bell's Creek.....	2				50	4				1	60	50			
Somer Island.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Ferry Point.....	1				50	8				1	60	200			
Lambert's Point.....	1				50	6				1	60	200			
Big Bay (south side) ..	8				400	27				8	1640	2000			
Musquito Bay.....	3				70	6									
Ford Creek.....	1				20	2									
Trent River.....	3				50	9									
Westley McCoon Lake.	1				20	2									
<i>Lake Ontario Division.</i>															
Brighton.....	11				1200	25		6000	1000	2	100	200			
Colborne.....	5				700	13		4000	600	1	25	500			
Cobourg.....	5				600	12		2000	400						
Whitby.....	2				10	3	2	50	20	1	15	40			
Shoal Point.....	1				30	2	7	359	146						
Frenchman's Bay.....	2				75	8	9	525	134	2	52	200			
The Rouge.....	1				10	4				1	28	140			
Port Union.....	1				40	2	5	250	66						
Gates' Gully.....	1				40	2	4	180	60						
Leslieville.....	2				10	2	6	1686	388	1	29	60			
Ashbridge's Bay.....	4				70	5	13	1181	290						
Toronto Island.....	4				220	8	11	1143	610	2	100	560			
Bronte.....	3				190	6	6	774	320	1	55	200			
Burlington Beach.....	20				940	36	31	3135	2178	16	1079	3070			

17.—Continued.

together with the Yield and Value of Fish in the Province of Ontario,
year 1875.

VALUE, &c.				KINDS, QUANTITIES, AND PRICES OF FISH.												VALUE.		TOTAL.
Hoop Nets.		Scoop Nets.		White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	Trout, brls.	Herring, brls.	Seiscos, brls.	Maskinonge, brls.	Bass, brls.	Pike, brls.	Pickarel, brls.	Coarse Fish, brls.	Total No. of brls. of Fish.	Fresh.	Pickled.	Value.
No.	Value.	No.	Value.													\$	\$	\$
3	60									3	1	7	8	30	49	245		245
5	100											10	2	35	47	235		235
				10			4					5	15	6	40	270		270
				6			2					4	16	8	36	220		220
				10								8	7	5	30	200		200
1	30			238				695							933		6550	6550
1	30			20				50							70		500	500
				35				40							75		590	590
				40				30							70		580	580
				70				80							150		1180	1180
				28				50							78		580	580
				100				50							150		1300	1300
				50				10							60		560	560
				30				20							50		420	420
				40				50							90		700	700
				5				10							15		110	110
				30				100							130		900	900
				20				30							50		380	380
				5				20							25		170	170
1	50			3				5						5	13		85	85
				20				50							70		500	500
				40				80							120		880	880
				10				20							30		220	220
				50				545							595		3770	3770
14	650													150	150		750	750
2	100													10	10		50	50
5	250	8	55	14				17							31		242	242
								3							3		18	18
								400						60	460		4300	4300
								231						30	261		2460	2460
								200						30	230		2150	2150
													16	16	80		80	80
				2			8			11				21	155		155	155
				22						11				33	275		275	275
				6										8	14		100	100
				10								20		30	200		200	200
				15			5							20	200		200	200
							4					5		9	65		65	65
								5				29		34	175		175	175
				200			10	16	18	25		12		45	326		2723	2723
				20				16	50		5	10		5	106		721	721
				100			10	80	105	25	8	29	4	15	376		2637	2637

APPENDIX

RETURN of the Number and Value of Vessels, Boats, Nets, &c., for the

STATION.	VESSELS AND BOATS EMPLOYED FISHING.						NETS, THEIR NUMBER, SIZE,									
	Vessels.				Boats.		Gill Nets.			Seines.			Pound Nets.			
	No.	Tonnage.	Value.	Men.	No.	Value.	Men.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.
			\$			\$				\$			\$			\$
Burlington Bay.....					8	80	2	8	400	144						
Wynona.....					1	75	2	6	1175	380						
Grimsby.....					2	95	4	8	1435	468						
Twenty Mile Creek.....					1	40	2	2	294	96	1	50	240			
Four Mile Creek.....					2	105	8	8	1205	438	2	144	550			
Two Mile Creek.....					1	70	4	6	900	320	1	74	300			
Niagara.....					5	125	10	4	712	246	4	140	200			
Queenstown.....					4	25	10				4	368	500			
Navy Island.....					1	20	1									
Wiloughly.....					4	80	5				1	20	75			
Bertie.....					3	55	6				1	15	100			
Fort Erie.....					2	40	8				2	30	200			
Old Fort Erie.....					10	300	10									
Low Banks.....					1	20	4				1	45	150			
Lake Erie Division.																
Port Maitland.....					2	50	4				1	50	180			
Port Maitland.....					2	40	3				1	15	60			
Dunville & Haldimand.....					8	110	15				7	68	260			
Selkirk.....					2	10	4	3	220	79						
Sandusky Creek.....					1	8	2	1	200	50	1	18	100			
Nanticoke.....					1	20	2	1	150	45						
Port Dover.....					3	65	10	6	440	60	1	36	40			
Port Ryerse.....					1	500	4							1	160	1000
Turkey Point.....					12	152	34				9	566	1120			
St. Williams.....					1	6	2									
Port Royan.....					1	10	4				1	60	80			
Inner Bay.....					4	31	10				2	80	170			
Long Point and Ryerse Island.....	1	182	3000	6	1	500	4							8	858	8000
Port Burwell.....					1	5	4				1	30	100			
Port Bruce.....					2	60	13				3	110	350			
Port Stanley.....					2	25	4				2	60	75			
Rondeau.....					13	375	21	1	20	10	6	150	560	3		1925
Point Pelee Island.....	1	15	700	3	1	125	3							2	135	700
Point Pelee.....					17	1110	70							2	555	3000
Detroit River Division.																
Belle Isle.....					4	400	20				6	130	1500			
Peach Island.....					5	145	30				6	130	1000			
Fighting Island.....					16	320	77				15	340	2500			
Bois Blanc Island.....					4	100	15				2	60	550			
Grass Island.....					3	60	21				3	70	650			
Turkey Island.....					3	50	14				4	80	700			
Detroit River.....					10	305	79				18	392	3500			

17.—Continued.

together with the Yield and Value of Fish in the Province of Ontario, year 1875.

VALUE, &c.		KINDS AND QUANTITIES OF FISH.										VALUE.		TOTAL.	
Hoop Nets.	Scoop Nets.	White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	White Fish, brls.	Fresh.	Pickled.	Value.	
												\$	\$	\$	
		63			4	4	10		135	60		215	1095	1095	
		59			2	5	5	5			8	89	799	799	
		18							6	40	15	1	777	777	
		26				8					12	76	470	470	
		22				25					15	8	423	423	
		54				10			4		11	5	450	450	
						45			18		15	10	745	745	
											5	17	470	470	
									3	2	31	35	355	355	
						15			3	2	26	10	295	295	
		1				10			13		22	13	310	310	
		2				8					220	30	1250	1250	
											1	6	73	73	
		3				6			2	1	3	8	136	136	
8	40								5		25	45	375	375	
	4	4							10	15	25	135	925	925	
		11									11	22	165	165	
		2				5		1	4	2	2	8	135	135	
		2										2	20	20	
		7				2		1	1	1	12	10	207	207	
		49				212			1	12	93	17	2377	2377	
		40				265		7	37	18	160	240	4300	4300	
												16	80	80	
									1	2	3	4	50	50	
		1				1		1	2	1	3	26	356	356	
		70				542		2	6	10	451	128	6937	6937	
												30	150	150	
											60	108	840	840	
												50	250	250	
		109				330			57	6	68	277	5110	5110	
		20				20					63	28	775	775	
		311				200			73			200	5675	5675	
		360				18						1	379	3713	3713
		132										4	136	1340	1340
		600				20					10	630	6170	6170	
		214									1	215	2145	2145	
		60									2	62	610	610	
		36									1	37	365	365	
		41									11	492	4865	4865	

APPENDIX

RETURN of the Number and Value of Vessels, Boats, Nets &c.,
for the

STATION.	VESSELS AND BOATS EMPLOYED FISHING.							NETS, THEIR NUMBER, SIZE,								
	Vessels.				Boats.			Gill Nets.			Seines.			Pound Nets.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Value.	Men.	No.	Value.	Men.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.
<i>Lake St. Clair and Thames Riv. Division.</i>			\$			\$				\$			\$			\$
Lake St. Clair and Riv. Thames					18	153	92				18	214	1305			
Mitchell's Bay					4	41	14				4	60	300			
Cashmere					2	20	12				2	16	95			
<i>Lake Huron Division.</i>																
Moore					7	105	29				7	102	512			
Sarnia and Indian Re- serve					7	97	33				7	194	405			
Lake Shore					18	230	32				8	388	1525			
Point Edward					4	100	10				2	22	160			
Bosanquet					10	300	60				10	705	2100			
Bayfield					8	1625	24				592	4998	3950			
Goderich					15	2565	40				978	21420	8475			
Kincardine					6	1075	18	396	16000	3250						
Inverhuron					2	200	6	90	4000	450						
Port Elgin					3	475	8	150	6000	750						
Southampton					7	1775	21	470	22000	2650						
Fishing Islands { Whitefish Island								10			1	50	200			
{ Burke Island								8			1	50	250			
{ Beaman Island								4								
{ Rowan Island								3			1	50	200			
<i>Georgian Bay Division.</i>																
Cape Hurd					2	90	4	4	720	105						
Lions' Head					4	250	8	6	1100	160						
Vail's Point					3	145	6	5	750	150						
Owen Sound					5	180	10	9	1400	220						
Point Rich					6	900	12	100	5000	350						
Meaford	2	Tgs	5000	8	7	1050	14	140	60000	4900						
Thornbury					2	30	4	32	16000	1120						
Collingwood	1	Tgs	1000	3	29	2050	59	540	25400	17800						
Mints Island					8	300	16	55	220	150						
Midland Station					3	120	6	16	80	50						
<i>Georgian Bay and Lake Huron Division.</i>																
Penetanguishene				10	10	500	20	80	1500	400						
Shawanaga					10	500	20	80	1500	400						
Byng Inlet					2	150	4	10	200	60						
Girondine					3	180	6	30	600	150						

17.—Continued.

together with the Yield and Value of Fish in the Province of Ontario,
year 1875.

VALUE, &C.				KINDS AND QUANTITIES OF FISH.												VALUE.		TOTAL.
Hoop Nets.		Scoop Nets.		White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	Trout, brls.	Herring, brls.	Sciscos, brls.	Maskinonge, brls.	Bass, brls.	Pike, brls.	Pickrel, brls.	Coarse Fish, brls.	Total No. of brls. of Fish.	Fresh.	Pickled.	Value.
No.	Value.	No.	Value.													\$	\$	\$
	\$		\$															
		17	25								39		1161	580	1741	8705		8705
												30	69	138	690			690
												111	55	166	830			830
								470							470	1820	1000	2820
								518					50		568	2300	1058	3358
				25			8	443					451		927	2620	2623	5243
				15				683					252		950	5508		5508
				1475				430			23		75		2003	17820		17820
				1150			578	208							1936	18528		18528
				1965			833								2798	27980		27980
				520			195	725							1440	11500		11500
							170								170	500	520	1020
				110			30	100							240	1000	1000	2000
				570			235								805	4500	3550	8050
								400							400	2400		2400
								800							800	4800		4800
								200							200	1200		1200
								100							100	600		600
				43			25								68	680		680
				71			53								124	1000	240	1240
				50			57							6	113	500	600	1100
				160			182	39						12	393	714	3000	3714
				1114											1114	5040	6100	11140
				1949											1949	9240	10250	19490
				287											287	1460	1410	2870
				4950											4950	25200	24300	49500
								150						50	200	250	990	1150
								50						50	100	300	250	550
								40	30						70		580	580
				300			30								330		3300	3300
				38											38	380		280
				50											50		500	500

APPENDIX

RETURN of the Number and Value of Vessels, Boats, Nets, &c.,
for the

STATIONS.	VESSELS AND BOATS EMPLOYED FISHING.							NETS, THEIR NUMBER, SIZE,								
	Vessels.				Boats.			Gill Nets.			Seines.			Pound Nets.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Value.	Men.	No.	Value.	Men.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.
			\$			\$					\$			\$		
<i>Georgian Bay and Lake Huron Division.—Continued.</i>																
Fox Island.....					2	120	4	30	600	300						
Cove Island.....					10	1500	20	100	4000	1000						
Killarney.....					8	800	16	100	2500	1000						
Spanish River.....					10	500	20	100	2000	500						
Missasaga Strait.....																
Inner Duck Island.....					20	2000	50	900	18000	600						
Green Island.....																
Great Duck Island.....																
Kagawong.....					1	50	2	10	200	100						
Providence Bay.....					5	300	10	60	1200	300						
Michael's Bay.....					2	500	10	60	1200	300						
Manitou Lake.....					3	120	6	18	360	90						
Sheshewaning.....					15	900	30	150	3000	750						
West Bay.....					20	1000	40	160	3200	800						
Gore Bay.....					20	1600	40	200	4000	1000						
Cameron's Bay.....					2	150	4	20	400	100						
Mink Island.....					2	200	4	20	400	100						
Lonely Island.....	3	30	3000	9	50	3000	100	600	1200	3000						
<i>Lake Superior Division.</i>																
Parisienne Island.....					4	200	8		2900	1100						
Lizzard Island.....					4	600	11		1200	600						
Michipicoten Island, E.					2	200	4		1100	1000						
Mamaine, North.....					3	220	6		450	400						
State Islands, East.....	1	8	5000	3	3	500	10		7500	1250						
Grand Saganash.....					1	75	6	7	150	35						
Roche Debout.....					1	100	5	6	132	30						
Cariboo.....					1	60	2	1	60	30						
Mary's Island.....					1	75	2	1	60	50						
McVicar's Creek.....					1	75	2	2	120	100						
Prince Arthur's Land g					1	60	2	2	120	100						
Welcome Island.....					1	100	2	2	120	100						
Fort William.....					1	75	4	1	40	75						
Victoria Island and Little Trout Bay.....					1	60	2	2	120	100						
<i>Lake Simcoe Division...</i>					6	365	17	5	840	775	3	500	310			
<i>Lake Scugog Division.</i>																
Coosaree.....																

17.—Continued.

together with the Yield and Value of Fish in the Province of Ontario.
year 1875.

VALUE, &c.				KINDS AND QUANTITIES OF FISH.										VALUE.		TOTAL.		
Hoop Nets.		Scoop Nets.		White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	Trout, brls.	Herring, brls.	Sciscos, brls.	Maskinonge, brls.	Basas, brls.	Pike, brls.	Pickere!, brls.	Coarse Fish, brls.	Total No. of brls. of Fish.	Fresh.	Pickled.	Value.
No.	Value.	No.	Value.													\$	\$	\$
.....	50	.....	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	1000	1000
.....	180	.....	.....	613	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	793	.....	7930	7930
.....	82	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	162	800	820	1620
.....	107	.....	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	142	.....	1415	1415
.....	1250	.....	.....	1750	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3000	.....	30000	30000
.....	30	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	400	400
.....	15	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	250	250
.....	110	.....	.....	55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	165	.....	1650	1650
.....	25	.....	.....	23	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	.....	480	480
.....	200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	.....	2000	2000
.....	40	.....	.....	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	1000	1000
.....	100	.....	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	.....	1500	1500
.....	103	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	203	.....	2030	2030
.....	30	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	400	400
.....	400	.....	.....	900	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1300	.....	13000	13000
.....	49	.....	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83	.....	830	830
.....	613	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	613	.....	6130	6130
.....	35	.....	.....	250	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	285	.....	2850	2850
.....	115	.....	.....	120	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	235	.....	2350	2350
.....	255	.....	.....	410	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	665	.....	6650	6650
.....	40	.....	.....	35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	.....	750	750
.....	30	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	.....	450	450
.....	23	.....	.....	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	51	.....	510	510
.....	20	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	.....	500	500
.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	200	200
.....	17	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	250	250
.....	15	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	250	250
.....	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	250	250
.....	50	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65	.....	650	650
.....	124	.....	.....	337	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	491	4830	.....	880
.....	77	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	400	.....	400

APPENDIX

RETURN of the Number and Value of Vessels, Boats, Nets, &c.,
for the

STATIONS.	VESSELS AND BOATS EMPLOYED FISHING.							NETS, THEIR NUMBER, SIZE,								
	Vessels.				Boats.			Gill Nets.			Seines.			Pound Nets.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Value.	Men.	No.	Value.	Men.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.	No.	Rods.	Value.
			\$			\$				\$			\$			\$
<i>Charleston and Gana- noque Divisions.</i>																
Henderson Lake.....					1	15	2	3	30	30						
<i>Peterboro and Victoria Divisions</i>																
<i>Mississippi River and Lake Division.</i>																
Carleton Place																
<i>Madawaska River and Lake des Chats Divis- ion.</i>																
Arnprior					1	25	2	4	200							
Total.....	11	275	18109	46	828	47389	2332	6334	27695	67196	1815	37707	49682	17	1708	14625

17.—Continued.

together with the Yield and Value of Fish in the Province of Ontario.
year 1875.

VALUE, &c.				KINDS AND QUANTITIES OF FISH.											VALUE.		TOTAL.	
Hoop Nets.		Scoop Nets.		White Fish, brls.	White Fish, lbs.	White Fish, No.	Trout, brls	Herring, brls.	Sciscos, brls.	Maskinonge, brls.	Bass, brls.	Pike, brls.	Pickrel, brls.	Coarse Fish, brls.	Total No. of brls. of Fish.	Fresh.	Pickled.	Value.
No.	Value.	No.	Value.													\$	\$	\$
3	45										96	48		220	364	1820		1820
				13			25			60	40			80	218	1280		1280
											14	160	40	15	229	1145		1145
		12	20	15						10	25	15	20	80	165	900		900
215	4755	41	104	25573			8965	9400	196	246	823	748	3881	4330	54162	281394	171800	453194

APPENDIX No. 18.

RECAPITULATION of the Number and Value of Vessels, Boats, Nets, &c., together with the Yield and Value of Fish in the Province of Ontario, for the year 1875.

FISHING VESSELS, BOATS AND NETS EMPLOYED.

	Number.	Tonnage.	Rods.	No. of Men.	Value.
					\$ cts.
Vessels	11	275	.....	46	18,100 00
Boats	828	.....	.....	2,332	47,389 00
Gill nets	6,334	.....	27,695	.....	67,196 00
Seines	1,815	.....	37,707	.....	49,682 00
Pound nets	17	.....	1,708	.....	14,625 00
Hoop nets	215	.....	.....	.....	4,755 00
Scoop nets	41	.....	.....	.....	104 00
Totals	9,261	275	67,110	2,378	201,851 00

KINDS, Quantities and Value of Fish as compared with the Year 1874.

Kinds.	1874.		1875.			
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value, fresh.	Value, pickled.	Total value, 1875.
		\$ cts.		\$	\$	\$
Whitefish	17,134 brls.	171,340 00	25,573 brls.	.....	.....	255,730
do	84,611 lbs.	4,230 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
do	569,112 pieces	56,910 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trout	13,951 brls.	139,510 00	8,965 brls.	.....	.....	89,650
Herrings	7,959 "	39,795 00	9,400 "	.....	.....	56,400
Sciscos	293 "	1,904 50	196 "	.....	.....	1,274
Maskinonge	413 "	1,652 00	246 "	.....	.....	1,230
Bass	1,576 "	6,304 00	823 "	.....	.....	4,115
Pike	875½ "	3,502 00	748 "	.....	.....	3,740
Pickarel	2,054 "	8,216 00	3,881 "	.....	.....	19,405
Coarse fish	3,226 "	12,904 00	4,330 "	.....	.....	21,650
	47,481½ "	446,267 50	54,162 "	281,394	171,800	453,194

APPENDIX No. 19

QUANTITY and VALUE of Fish Caught and Exported from Prince Edward Island in the Year 1875:—

Year.	Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
			\$ cts.
1875.	Mackerel, brls	17,990	142,973 00
do	Herring, brls.....	2,151	7,608 00
do	Codfish (salted), quintals	13,054	28,338 00
do	Salmon (canned), cans.....	10,280	3,129 00
do	Lobsters (preserved), lbs.....	75,624	23,938 00
do	Oysters (fresh) brls.....	39	78 00
do	Seafish (not pickled) lbs.....	2,000	100 00
do	Other kinds.....	182	9,780 00
do	Fish oil	470	216 00
	Total Value		216,160 00

Of the foregoing, there were shipped to

GREAT BRITAIN.

Year.	Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
			\$ cts.
1875.	Codfish	1,752	4,818 00
do	Salmon	9,680	2,792 00
do	Lobsters.....	68,000	20,494 00
			28,104 00

WEST INDIES.

Year.	Article.	Quantity.	Value.
			\$ cts.
1875.	Codfish.....	7,510	11,607 00
do	Herring	150	412 00
do	Salmon.....	600	337 00
do	Lobsters	1,152	144 00
do	Seafish	2,000	100 00
do	Other kinds.....	2	10 00
			12,610 00

UNITED STATES.

Year.	Article.	Quantity.	Value.
			\$ cts.
1875.	Mackrel.....	17,990	142,973 00
do	Herring	2,001	7,196 00
do	Codfish	3,792	11,913 00
do	Lobsters	6,472	3,300 00
do	Other kinds.....	180	9,770 00
do	Fish oil.....	470	216 00
			175,368 00

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Year.	Article.	Quantity.	Value.
			\$ cts.
1875.	Oysters, brls.....	29	58 00

ST. PIERRE.

Year.	Article.	Quantity.	Value.
			\$ cts.
1875.	Oysters, brls	10	20 00

RECAPITULATION.

Places.	Value.
	\$ cts.
Great Britain.....	28,104 00
West Indies	12,610 00
United States.....	175,368 00
Newfoundland	58 00
St. Pierre.....	20 00
	216,160 00

APPENDIX No. 20.

EXTRACT FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA
AGENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,
(JAMES COOPER, ESQ.,) DATED AT VICTORIA, 28TH JULY, 1875.

To the Hon. A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

THE SALMON FISHERIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

An important branch of industry is developing year by year on the banks of the Fraser River, but this, to be successful, like many others in new countries, requires a fostering care. Already are the fishermen of the Province beginning to complain of the various causes calculated to depreciate the business of salmon curing, and it is apprehended by gentlemen engaged therein that it is absolutely necessary that the same or similar protective measures should be resorted to on the Fraser as have been found necessary, and subsequently found successful, on the Sacramento and Columbia Rivers. I beg to append a few reasons furnished to me by Mr. Ewan, of the firm of Loggie & Co., of New Westminster, for the apparent decline of salmon in our waters. He states:—

“ From information gathered from the Indians on the upper waters of the Fraser on the main river that there are large spaces of the spawning beds destroyed from gold mining; light, soft sand carried on to the hard gravelly beds which destroys the eggs or spawn. There are also large quantities of salmon spawn destroyed in all the side streams by the Indians, both in the fall and spring. In the fall they take spawn by the ton and dry it, mixing it with a certain kind of moss, and baking it into food for the winter. They also, in the spring, take the young fry by the million and use them fresh for food, also drying them in the sun, stringing them with a needle and packing them off to the various Indian camps, who at certain seasons camp at the different places on the river where spawn and fry are plentiful.

“ It would be a great gain to the revenue of the country if the Government would take in hand the protection of salmon by prohibiting this wholesale destruction by the Indians, and by introducing a system of artificial breeding. The Harrison River and lakes are well calculated for the purpose, and a great deal of good could be done at small expense.

“ It is to be hoped that the Department of Marine and Fisheries will see the desirability of meeting these great wants, and cause a general survey to be made by some experienced person.

“ There is nothing to prevent the Fraser from being as good a fishing river as the Columbia. Our fish are said to be finer in texture and flavour, but the Columbia has the advantage of large tracts of natural breeding grounds, which are probably not disturbed by the same causes as those on the Fraser.”

I have received the following communication from Messrs. Stahl, Schmidt & Co., enclosing a very interesting paper upon the protection and breeding of salmon, which I beg to forward as requested:—

“ WHARF STREET, 20th July, 1875

“ SIR,—We beg to enclose a copy of a cutting from an American newspaper, containing the views of Professor Baird, United States Commissioner, on the sub-

"ject of the protection of salmon, and shall feel obliged if you will, after perusal, forward the same to headquarters.

"We are connected with the fisheries on the Fraser River, and are in a position to state that in the opinion of some of those best fitted to judge, it would be desirable to introduce into this Province the mode of preserving the fish by artificial hatching similarly as suggested in the enclosure, and we venture to bring the matter forward for the consideration of the Department as worthy of investigation.

"We have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servants,

"(Signed)

STAHL, SCHMIDT & CO.

"Capt. JAMES COOPER."

The protection of salmon in the Columbia River and its tributaries, as well as the shad and other fish in California waters, has been attracting considerable attention during the past two years, and has been the subject of Congressional enquiry.

The Committee on Commerce in the Senate has had the matter under consideration, but owing to the press of other business they were unable to report at the lately concluded Session.

PROFESSOR BAIRD'S VIEWS.

In response to a letter of enquiry, Professor Spencer F. Baird, United States Commissioner, has forwarded to the Committee a long letter pertaining to the matter under enquiry. Among other things he says, that in all probability the experience of the salmon fisheries of the Columbia River will be similar to that of many noted streams in the Eastern United States and in Europe, in which salmon were formerly as abundant in proportion to the volume of the water as they now are in Columbia, but in which they have been entirely exterminated or else reduced to such small numbers as to be of very little economical importance.

THE CAUSES

which have brought about those results are various, among which he mentions as of most importance that of excessive fishing at untimely seasons, especially where the fish are in the habit of depositing their spawn; second, the establishment of dams preventing the upward movement of the fish to their spawning ground; third, some change in the physical condition of the stream. It is not the actual capture of the fish before they deposited their eggs that produces the interference referred to under the first head, but their disturbance while engaged in the operation of spawning. Success in this requires perfect quiet and deliberation, and if nets are being dragged or set in the vicinity of the spawning grounds, the fish will be prevented from coming together at the critical period, and the fertilization of the eggs will not take place.

THE EFFECTS OF DAMS.

The erection of artificial dams and other obstructions to the upward movement of the fish produces an equally injurious effect. Of course so long as the salmon supply of a river is kept up by the natural spawning of the fish, everything depends upon their having access to suitable grounds. These consist of gravel bed, under a more or less rapid current of water in which the fish can excavate channels for the deposit of their eggs, and where they can be properly developed. These conditions are usually to be found only in the upper waters of rivers. It is an established axiom in the history of such fish as the shad, salmon and fresh water herring that run up from the sea to spawn, that they always seek to return, for the purpose of spawning when mature, to the place where they were first introduced into the water; and if the original home of the salmon be the head waters of any stream, they will

endeavour to ascend to that point, never turning from their way to the right or left. Year after year they will return as far as the first barrier, and if this be impassable they will remain there, sometimes destroying themselves in vain efforts to reach their destination, and the operation of reproduction, except in very rare cases, will not be performed. This difficulty may be remedied by the construction of suitable fishways, permitting the ascent of the fish to the desired upper levels.

THE PROGRESS OF CIVILIZATION.

The third important cause of the diminution of these fish consists in changes in the physical condition of the country consequent upon the progress of civilization, this resulting from the destruction of the forest and underbrush of the region, and the consequent alterations in the character of its drainage. Where the surface of a region is covered with forests the rains as they fall are taken up by the soil or absorbed by the dead leaves and mosses under the trees, so that the drainage is gradual. Floods are unfrequent, as are also low stages of water. The average depth is maintained throughout the year, while various hills and cold springs maintain a regular discharge into the tributaries which flow into the main stream, and thus keep the water at a comparatively low temperature.

With the clearing up of the land the whole physical condition seems to be altered. The falling rain is not retained, but rushes off in a flood, which, as far as the salmon are concerned, interferes with their general movements and destroys the spawning beds, tearing out the gravel where the eggs are deposited, or covering to the depth of many inches, so that the young, if hatched, cannot emerge. At other times the water is extremely low, scarcely affording a passage for the fish. The absence of the continued flow of the cold springs permits a great increase in the temperature of the waters, bringing it up to a degree beyond that which the salmon can sustain.

THE DESTRUCTION OF FISHERIES BY REFUSE MATTER.

Still a fourth case of disturbance may be found in the introduction of refuse material, as that from gas works, factories, paper mills, &c. This, however, has not materially affected the salmon fisheries of the United States, whatever it may have done abroad. From one, or from several of these causes combined, the salmon fisheries of the Eastern United States have been totally destroyed, so that, within a period of less than fifty years these fish occurred in immense quantities, and, indeed, to such an extent that paupers in workhouses, servants and apprentices protested against being obliged to eat them oftener than twice or thrice in a week, but have become an unattainable luxury. The same experience has been had in Europe, especially in Great Britain.

THE THREATENED DANGER.

Warned by these facts we can readily appreciate the change which threatens the salmon fisheries of the Columbia River, in which region these fish occur at the present time in greater abundance and larger variety of species than almost anywhere else on the face of the globe. Even now it is stated that the diminution is appreciable, although it may be many years before this becomes very marked, yet such a result is sure to arrive in time, especially as every year witnesses an increase in the number of establishments devoted to the preparation of the salmon in some form or other.

ARTIFICIAL HATCHING PROPOSED.

The method by which the salmon fisheries of the Columbia River can best be kept up, in at least an average degree of efficiency, are two fold: Firstly, the enactment of suitable laws regulating the numbers, the period and the season of capture of the fish; and secondly, by hatching them artificially at some suitable point. As far as the first provision is concerned there is no doubt that the measures asked for by

the Legislature of Oregon would be efficient if they could be enforced, this assertion being amply warranted by the results of similar action in relation to the Scottish Rivers. Not many years ago, after the attention of the British Government was called to the very great diminution in the salmon fisheries, a very stringent series of laws was formed, and a Board of Commissioners, with a suitable body of police, was called into existence to attend to this interest. The beneficial effects were felt in a very few years, and now streams, the rental of which ten years since was less than fifty pounds sterling annually, being hundreds and even thousands of pounds.

THE EFFECT OF FISH LAWS.

By means of such laws the first condition referred to as affecting the fisheries will be remedied; and even if the periods indicated in the resolutions of the Oregon Legislature, namely, a close time from 9 o'clock in the morning of Saturday until 6 o'clock Sunday evening, through the season, and an absolute cessation of captures from the 15th July to the 1st September, may not be the best, yet due enquiry would probably determine this point satisfactorily. Such a weekly cessation from fishing would doubtless permit a sufficient number of graved fish to reach the upper waters, and if undisturbed while actually spawning the supply would probably be maintained indefinitely.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION SUGGESTED.

In the United States, however, it has always been found very difficult to enforce laws in regard to the fisheries. When passed by the States they involve an extensive police for their execution. No precedent has yet been established by the General Government in regard to legislation for the protection of fish, either in the interior or coast waters; and while with many it is a question whether the General Government possesses the right to interfere, it has, by most persons been considered expedient to leave such matters to the States, within whose boundaries the waters lie. Of course, the United States possess a certain jurisdiction over the navigable waters, especially such as are common in several States. Even more unquestionable is the right to take action in regard to the fisheries of the water boundaries between it and Canada on one side, and Mexico on the other. In the case of the Columbia River, all the States drained by its system of waters are affected, especially Oregon and Washington and Idaho Territories, and it might be difficult to obtain suitable concurrent legislation from them for the protection of fish. Still laws, without providing the means for their enforcement would be a dead letter, and it is a serious question what means are at command of the United States for the detection of infractions of any law on this subject and enforcing its penalties. Special fish wardens would need to be employed, and perhaps the services of a revenue steamer called in to their aid during the close time referred to.

THE RESULT IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVERS.

A still better procedure, however, would be to employ the now well understood methods of artificial multiplication of fish, so as to maintain the present number indefinitely, and even to increase them if desired. A small and inexpensive hatching establishment could easily be erected on the Columbia River, near one of the great spawning grounds, and the eggs hatched in any desirable number. The experience of the United States Fish Commission in hatching salmon on the Sacramento River shows that, after the erection of the shanties, troughs and other machinery required, the expense of hatching each million of eggs may not exceed \$1,000, so that for \$10,000 annually, 10,000,000 eggs could be obtained, and by far the greater number return to the waters as young fish. The average number of eggs to the fish, in the case of large salmon, may be estimated at 5,000, some fish yielding considerably more than this, and others less. Ten thousand eggs to the fish would probably be an excessive estimate.

NATURAL SPAWNING.

In the case of natural spawning, however, many difficulties are in the way at every stage of the operation. It is well known that at the critical period the male and female are side by side, and that as the eggs are discharged into the water, the milt of the male is sent forth at the same time. A large number of eggs, however, fail to receive the fertilizing influence, and of course do not develop; and if the contact of the two elements be delayed even for a few seconds, the envelope of the eggs swells so that the small pores through which the spermatozoa obtain entrance into the interior, are closed and fecundation is impossible. In the next place the spawning ground is always infested by vast numbers of fish of all kinds, which find in the eggs a great delicacy, and as these are carried along down the current they are greedily snapped up, and a large percentage destroyed in a short time.

HOW THE EGGS ARE LEFT TO HATCH.

As the second operation in natural spawning, the salmon covers the eggs with slight layers of gravel, sometimes to such an extent as to render it impossible for the young, when born, to extricate themselves; and again, any rise in the river may bring down a quantity of sand and gravel, and do the same ill service. Such eggs as are unconcealed are sure to be devoured in view of the fact that a period of several months is required for their development.

Again after the young are hatched and emerge from the gravel where they were concealed, they remain apparently a mass of animated jelly for an additional period of weeks and months, during which, equally as in the egg state, they are the objects of pursuits by predaceous fish, frogs, water lizards, birds, &c., and it is not until the yolk-bags are absorbed, and the young fish is fully formed, that it is able to take care of itself and fight the battle of life. After that its chances of reaching maturity are very good.

THE SMALL PERCENTAGE WHICH SURVIVES.

A widely accepted estimate of the percentage of young salmon living to the stage of being able to feed for themselves, in comparison with the original of one pair of fish, is only one to 1,000, so that from 5,000 eggs of one parent only five, not more, are believed to survive to that stage. The case is entirely different in the matter of artificial impregnation and culture. In this operation the female is caught and the eggs are squeezed out, by pressure upon the abdomen, into a pan. The male is then taken and the milt pressed from his body upon the eggs, a little water added, and the contents of the pan shaken together until every egg receives the proper influence, and the fecundation of the entire mass is accomplished.

THE RESULTS OF ARTIFICIAL SPAWNING.

The eggs are then placed in a hatching box and exposed to a continuous current of suitable water, at a low temperature, until their development to the proper stage is complete.

During this period they are carefully watched and protected from depredation from any quarter, and after they are hatched they are cared for in a similar manner, until the young become able to find their own food, after which they are placed in the water and left to shift for themselves.

In the latter mode of treatment instead of only having one in a thousand reach this stage, it is very poor management that loses fifty in a thousand, and in fact, in many cases, the loss is entirely inappreciable. The result is that the artificial treatment of eggs from one pair of fish is equivalent to the natural yield of 1,000 pair of parents.

TRANSPORTING THE EGGS.

During the season of 1874 there were secured at the United States breeding establishment on the McLeod River 6,000,000 of eggs. Of these 1,000,000 were hatched and returned to the Sacramento River, and the others were forwarded to States east of the Missouri River and were hatched out in great part by the State Commissioners of Fishery and introduced into the more suitable streams. The eggs were kept in the hatching boxes on the McLeod River for six weeks, and after the eggs began to show in the embryo, were taken out, packed in boxes between layers of damp moss and sent to their destination.

Owing to the heat of the season some of the lots were prematurely hatched out in the moss; the greater number, however reached their destination in good condition, and it is probable that the yield was five millions of young. The five million of young fish according to the preceding calculation are equivalent to 5,000,000,000 eggs spawned naturally, or the progeny of from half a million to one million pairs of fish. The total cost of the work on the McLeod river was about \$10,000; a very trifling expenditure compared with the benefits which are likely to be derived by the introduction of this magnificent fish into the streams of the United States.

WHAT THE COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDS.

Professor Baird unhesitatingly recommends that instead of the present protective laws which cannot be enforced, except at very great expense, and with much ill-feeling, measures be taken either by the conjoint efforts of the States and Territories interested, or by the United States, for the immediate erection of a hatching establishment on the Columbia River, and the initiation, during the present year, of the method of artificial hatching of these fish. The cost of doing this on a proper scale for the first season would probably amount to fifteen or twenty thousand dollars; although after the buildings are erected an expenditure of from ten to twelve thousand dollars annually would doubtless meet all requirements.

There can be no reasonable doubt as to the success of such measures and of their power, not only to maintain the present supply of fish indefinitely, but to increase it if desirable. The best station for such operations can only be determined by investigation.

The Dalles would probably be very suitable for the purpose. There is a Government reservation at that point which may be used in this connection, and where there are already buildings which would obviate the necessity of so large an outlay as would otherwise be needed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

JAMES COOPER,
Agent.

APPENDIX No. 21.

REPORT ON THE FISHERIES OF MANITOBA FOR THE YEAR 1875.

To the HON. A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

LITTLE BRITAIN, DISTRICT OF LISGAR, }
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA, October 14th, 1875. }

SIR,—Having given, in my report of last year, a full account of the finny tribes that delight in the waters of this Province, I shall say nothing on that subject at present, but confine myself to a brief, and, I fear, somewhat imperfect, account of the take of fish within the Province since I had the honor of sending in my last report.

In the fall of 1874 the number of whitefish caught at the different stations on the shores of our lakes did not amount to an average, owing, most likely, to strong winds that blew at different times during the fishing season. These gales destroy the fishermen's expectations in two different ways: first, they confine him to the shore when he ought to be on the lake keeping his nets in order, and taking fish to the shore; secondly, heavy gales at all seasons drive the fish from the shores and shallows into deep water, where these creatures, taught by instinct, know they will avoid the danger of being stranded on the shore or crushed against the boulders on the shallows. These well-known facts may satisfactorily account for the deficiency.

Three years ago a few men formed a joint stock company for the purpose of supplying the City of Winnipeg with fish, and to enable them to carry on the business they built a half-decked boat of considerable tonnage, and furnished themselves with the necessary supply of nets, seines, &c., but, after making several trips from the City of Winnipeg to the Little Saskatchewan, where they had established their fishery, and back to Winnipeg with the produce of their fishery, which consisted chiefly of whitefish, fresh and salted, they found that the business did not prove sufficiently remunerative, and therefore gave it up, and are now employed in freighting goods and provisions to the different stations on the shores of our great Lake.

Yet, I am confident that fisheries in Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba cannot fail being highly remunerative, if carried on by parties who can command the requisite amount of capital, knowledge and enterprise.

The winter fishing in the lower part of Red River has been very good. Thousands of pike have been taken with hook and line, to which we may add a great number of perch and suckers, taken in nets; so that, we may say, without any exaggeration, that the above specified fishes have always been and still are, especially during the cold season of the year, "the staff of life" to the horde of Indians who have taken up their abode on the lands set apart, or reserved for their benefit.

The water was very high in Red River during the first two months of the summer, and during that time gold eyes were taken in very great numbers in both our rivers, but since the water fell off they have become very few. The sturgeon, I am sorry to say, have nearly forsaken our river as their spawning grounds, consequently the numbers taken were but small.

The catfish have been taken in great abundance in the marshes that are on each side of the river, near its mouth, but the attempts made to take that kind of fish in the river were attended with very little success.

Our people have gone to the Lakes in considerable numbers to try their fortune at the fall fishing. The weather, up to the present time, has been unfavorable, as one

strong wind has succeeded another at very short intervals since the beginning of this month. However, we have not yet had any word from them.

Permit me here to observe that the last two paragraphs of my former report have been jumbled together in the printed copy, and thereby convey to the reader's mind a different idea to that which the manuscript was intended to give, and which read substantially as follows:—

"3rd. Saw mills, of late years, have been erected near the river. The sawdust is thrown into heaps near the river, into which it is carried by every blast of wind that blows and by every shower of rain that falls."

"4th. During the last twenty-five or thirty years an Indian village has grown up on each side of the Red River, and is now included in the Indian Reserve. These people, as a rule, have to live on fish at all seasons. They stretch their nets and lines across the river, which, I believe, must obstruct the progress of the fish up the river, and may be the means of turning the greater part of them back to the Lake. And we may credit this Indian population with their full share of filth added to the water."

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

D. GUNN, SEN.,
Fishery Overseer, Manitoba.

P.S.—I enclose a copy of the Fishery Regulation, passed by the Governor and Council of Assiniboine in 1865.

D. G.

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF COUNCIL HELD THE 30TH DAY OF MAY, 1865.

" To Mr. DONALD GUNN, SEN.,
" Petty Magistrate, Lower Section.

22nd October, 1863.

" There was a petition presented to the Council, signed by 180 persons, praying the Council to take into consideration the state of the fishery in the Red River and Assiniboine, with a view to preventing the injury arising from the erection of weirs or barriers in these rivers, whereby a great destruction of fish was caused, and the majority of the people were prevented from catching a fair share of the fish on which, even in ordinary seasons, and much more in a season like this, so many were dependent for their means of living.

" After due deliberation it was unanimously

" *Resolved*,—That it shall be unlawful to erect any weirs or barriers in any part of the Red River or Assiniboine; and that on receiving information of the existence of any such weirs or barriers, any Magistrate shall be, after 1st July, and hereby is, empowered to order any constable to remove the same."

" A true copy.

" W. R. SMITH,
" *Clerk of Council.*"

APPENDIX No. 22.

REPORT OF SAMUEL WILMOT, ESQ., IN RELATION TO FISH-CULTURE IN CANADA FOR THE YEAR 1875.

To the Honorable A. J. SMITH,

Minister of Marine and Fisheries, &c., &c., &c.

SIR,—I have the honor herewith to forward to your Department a report of my proceedings in connection with the work of fish-culture during the past year; a science which is now becoming very wide-spread in its operations, not in Canada alone, but also throughout the United States of America, and one which I have taken an active part in bringing to its present important position and usefulness.

The progress made in artificial fish-culture by the Governments of Canada and of the United States during the past year has been very satisfactory and forms a good index to the estimation in which this new industry is held by the people:

With the general prosperity which has attended the transactions of your Department in Pisciculture in former years, the season of 1875 will record still greater strides made in its development in the construction of two additional establishments and in the enlargement, and improvement of some of those which were erected in former years.

The two new buildings for the artificial propagation of fish just referred to, are located at very distant points from each other in the Dominion, and arranged for the production of different kinds of fish; the one on the Detroit River at Sandwich, in Ontario, being specially intended for the rearing of white-fish, and the other on the Sackville River, near Halifax, in Nova Scotia, for the propagation of salmon. It will be my object here to lay before your Department some particulars in relation to the location and construction of, and success already accomplished at, each of these establishments.

Whitefish Culture at Sandwich.

Upon the receipt of instructions from your Department, I proceeded in the early part of the summer to the extensive whitefish fisheries near Sandwich, on the Detroit River, where it was proposed to erect works for the artificial methods of propagating fish; with the view that by this process, the rapidly decreasing supplies of whitefish in the waters of that section of Ontario might be arrested and eventually increased. It was reputed that, as the artificial rearing of the young of the salmon had been attended with marked success, where it had been applied in other parts of Canada, the application of the same system to the reproduction of white fish would result in a like satisfactory manner.

The first successful attempt recorded for the artificial rearing of the *coregonus albus* or whitefish of America was made by me at Newcastle in 1867 and 1868, when large numbers were hatched out, and the young fry were reared in very circumscribed ponds till many of them attained the weight of a pound and upwards. Experiments of a like nature have been repeated since: but always upon a very limited scale. The above circumstance induced many fish-culturists in the United States to enter into this work of breeding white-fish; amongst whom were Dr. Fletcher, of New Hampshire; Seth Green, of Rochester, N. Y.; and the Hon. N. W. Clark of Michigan. These gentlemen, particularly the last named, entered into the work with great enthusiasm. Mr. Clark has written largely and ably in relation to the culture of this valuable fish. All of the experiments conducted by these gentle-

men and the one first entered into by myself were carried on by the use of pure spring water, as the medium in which the ova were hatched out. Never having used spring water for the breeding of fish in any of the establishments heretofore erected by me (except in the one instance above related), and believing that such is not the *habitat* where the larger and more numerous of the commercial fishes of this country resort to deposit their spawn, both on account of the very limited supply and small area of spring water obtainable for that purpose, as well as the higher temperature it possesses over rivers or other waters where fish almost universally deposit their eggs; therefore, in view of the contemplated erection of extensive works for the artificial propagation of white-fish, I was strongly impressed with the conviction that the ordinary river water in which these fish themselves laid their eggs naturally, should be used in the rearing of them artificially.

The Detroit River being an extensive natural spawning ground of the white-fish, and the *Petite-Côte* fisheries on it, being a point where the greater numbers of fish are usually netted during the spawning season, induced me to select a site there, near to the town of Sandwich, on which to erect an extensive Governmental establishment for the artificial propagation of white-fish. The particulars in relation to the selection of the ground, together with the letting of the contract for the works, and the plans and specifications of the building and other transactions in relation thereto, were fully detailed in my report which was forwarded to your Department on the 30th of June last.

I may mention briefly here that the contract was let by public tender. A number of competitors offered for the work. Mr. C. W. Gauthier being the lowest, the contract was awarded to him. As I had to leave for the Maritime Provinces on duty, the supervision of the works during their construction was given to Mr. Goddard, an architect, who had furnished the plans and specifications, and who had been highly recommended to me for his professional ability.

The building is large, commodious and slightly in Gothic style; size, 90x32 feet. The first floor is adapted for fish-breeding purposes, with office and ante-room at the entrance. The upper floor is arranged for dwelling apartments and storeroom, and completed throughout in first-class style. The water supply is furnished by means of a four-inch wrought iron pipe running from a large water-tank underneath the building, and laid underground to the river's edge, and thence, 150 feet into the river, to the channel bank. By this means a constant flow of water from the channel of the river is conveyed to the tank in the building, from which it is pumped up to the hatching troughs, some six feet above, by means of a rotary pump, propelled by a four horse-power upright engine manufactured by the Waterous Engine Works Co., of Brantford.

After returning from the Lower Provinces, I proceeded in October to Sandwich, in order to examine the building and prepare it for operations by procuring the necessary motive power, and by furnishing the requisite apparatus for the laying down of a large quantity of eggs during the approaching season in November.

It was found necessary to have the hatching troughs and trays made at Newcastle under my own supervision. The close approach of the spawning season left but little time to get in readiness the peculiarly intricate and novel apparatus indispensably requisite for the proper laying down and convenient handling of the many millions of such minute eggs as are those of the whitefish.

There are several kinds of apparatus patented in the United States for the artificial breeding of fish, each patentee claiming superiority over the other. The system introduced into the Sandwich establishment is such as had been experimented upon and used by me on a small scale at Newcastle as far back as 1868. It consists in having the breeding troughs made in the usual way, say twelve feet long by twelve inches wide, and ten inches in depth, and divided into a series of compartments fifteen inches long. Into these may be placed several layers of hatching trays, one upon the other, to the number of eight or ten, or more. Between each compartment in the trough a space of three inches is left, by which means the water may be made to flow either upwards or downwards through the eggs at pleasure, merely by revers-

ing the troughs end for end upon the staging which supports them. This narrow space of three inches, having a hole and plug at the bottom, is also used to draw off the water and sediment from each compartment without interfering with the adjoining one. The breeding troughs are placed one after the other lengthwise of the room. Through these a steady flow of river water is made to pass, the troughs being connected by means of short pieces of india-rubber hose let into the ends of each of them.

On the fifth of November the troughs, trays, and other apparatus described above were shipped by Grand Trunk Railway from Newcastle to Detroit, and by the cautious and accommodating conduct of the company's officials at Toronto and Newcastle, reached their destination the following day. The arranging and putting together of machinery, apparatus, tanks and other requisites for the work was then proceeded with, and brought to a conclusion as expeditiously as possible. Sufficient progress was made to permit of laying down the first lot of eggs on the 10th of November, and by extra exertions all of the prepared space in the building was stocked with ova by the 16th November. By this time the spawning season of the whitefish had entirely ceased, and had it not been that eggs were procured from the fish enclosed in the pounds, a sufficient supply even for the *then* partial requirements of the establishment could not have been obtained.

In this first commencement of such a novel and peculiar enterprise (unequalled in extent and capacity for artificial fish-culture on this continent), as the one just initiated at Sandwich for the specialty of propagating whitefish, difficulties innumerable and almost insurmountable, had to be overcome. The use of steam power, the difficult work of setting up machinery, and other newly invented appliances in fish-culture, the extreme difficulty experienced in obtaining parent fish, the unavoidably rough and improper methods used in manipulating and impregnating the eggs on account of the lateness of the season, and in the employment of many unskilled assistants, the very short time in which the whole work had to be performed—these drawbacks, with many others impossible to mention here, all combined to make this new venture a task of no ordinary mental or physical accomplishment, and also gave but little promise at the time for future success.

Yet with all, present appearances would indicate the hatching out of *ten or twelve millions* of young whitefish, and even if this number should be much lessened, the most cheering and satisfactory results will have been achieved; and judging from the experience already obtained during this first season's operations, every succeeding year may be confidently looked forward to for producing largely increased numbers of young fish, and as foreshadowing a means by which the now very much reduced fisheries on the Detroit River will become replenished.

The capacity of the present establishment at Sandwich, when fully completed and furnished, will admit of the laying down of *fifty millions* of whitefish eggs, and if a very low average estimate is taken of the product of these, namely fifty per cent., *twenty-five millions* of young white fish will be planted in the Detroit River annually by artificial means alone; thus giving the most confident assurance that the fisheries in the river, and in the upper portions of Lake Erie, must soon be greatly benefitted.

This large number of artificially-bred young fish must also be considered as a *clear gain*, and as just so many *saved from destruction*, for by no possibility could any of the eggs thus obtained otherwise become fertilised or produce fish, from the fact that the ova so made productive were taken from the parent fish when hauled on shore by the fishermen to be sold near by for consumption, or artificially frozen to supply the markets of the larger cities in the United States during the winter months.

It may not, therefore, be amiss to consider here, how far, and to what extent, a laudable work of this kind may be carried on for saving the immense quantities of the eggs of the whitefish, and of the salmon trout, which now, from the cupidity of the fishermen, and the almost impossibility of having proper close seasons, are annually lost to the waters of this country. A visit by any person to the fishing grounds in the late autumn, where white-fish and trout are taken, will give conclusive

evidence of the terribly great and wanton destruction of *myriads upon myriads* of the ripened ova of these valuable fish. The boats, nets and fishing gear of all kinds, even the clothing of the fishermen engaged in the work, become perfectly besmeared with these eggs, and the beach and huts are alike literally covered with them, evincing throughout the most selfish and barbarous destruction of that which nature has designed to increase and multiply—both food and riches—for the people of this country.

Would it not then be wise that an effort should be made in the manner indicated to replenish the waters of Lake Ontario with both whitefish and salmon trout, the two principal commercial fishes in it? The fisheries at Hamilton, Toronto, Cobourg, Presqu'isle, Consecon, and Bay of Quinte, once yielding unlimited supplies of white fish, are now, comparatively speaking, almost depleted, and unless the means referred to be speedily adopted, or a system enforced for the thorough prevention of the destruction of these fish during the spawning season, this natural source of wealth in Lake Ontario must inevitably be lost.

The establishment at Sandwich was placed in charge of Mr. James Neevin, my principal assistant at Newcastle for several years past; he has shown great aptitude for the work, and his steadiness and sobriety of character commend him for the important duty he has to discharge. I desire also to state that the inhabitants generally, and the fishermen particularly, in that section of Ontario, recognise the introduction of this new industrial enterprise in their midst as a great boon, and hail it with much satisfaction, believing that it is designed to ultimately improve one of the principal industries carried on there. The zeal displayed and generous action taken by the Member of the Commons, William McGregor, Esq., both in the inception and carrying out of this work, and the ready assistance so cordially given to me at all times in connection with my duty, entitles him to the best consideration.

Erection of Works in Nova Scotia.

After completing the necessary arrangements at Sandwich, I proceeded to the Lower Provinces with the view to inspect the several fish-breeding establishments in operation there, both as to the general efficiency and progress made at each since the previous year, proposing to visit them *en route*, before reaching Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, where in both of these Provinces duties had been detailed for me to perform.

Arriving at Ottawa about the 10th July, and after a conference with yourself and your Commissioner, I proceeded to the Saguenay River in order to make more efficient arrangements for the proper working of the establishment at Tadousac. I also visited the A Mars and St. Jean Rivers to select, if possible, suitable places where arrangements could be made to secure a stock of parent salmon, that a sufficient supply of ova should be readily procured for the Tadousac works.

Whilst engaged on the Saguenay, I was joined by Mr. Whiteher, who took the work in hand himself, and instructed me to proceed at once to Halifax; and taking passage by one of the Gulf-port Steamers, I arrived there in the latter part of July. By this means no opportunity was afforded me of stopping at Gaspé, Restigouche or Miramichi to see the works at either of those places. This I regretted very much as it is of the utmost importance to your Department that each of the several fish-breeding establishments should be inspected annually.

Arriving at Halifax with orders to select a site in the Province of Nova Scotia upon which I should erect an establishment for the artificial propagation of salmon, as expeditiously as possible, I at one set to work to procure all the information I could in relation to the rivers emptying into the sea for a considerable distance along the coast on either side of Halifax Harbour. For this purpose I called upon Messrs. Jones and Power (the members of the House of Commons for that section), both of whom were greatly pleased at the proposed introduction of the method of rearing salmon by artificial means, into that Province.

Mr. Jones, M.P., took a lively interest in the cause, which assisted me in the prose-

cution of my labours very materially, and joining me in visiting some of the streams, and giving his advice and personal attention in carrying out many of the details of the work afterwards. I take this opportunity, also, to state that in no portion of Canada have I met with such a general feeling of satisfaction as was expressed by the citizens of Halifax and the people of the surrounding country with the action taken by your Department in introducing into Nova Scotia a means by which the rivers there might be increased in their supplies of salmon.

I am also under deep obligations to the then Administrator of the Government of Canada, General Sir O'Grady Haly, who, upon receiving information of my mission cordially gave me his valued experience and counsel, and also assisted me in person in an inspection tour of some of the rivers along the coast.

Having made a personal inspection of the following rivers in the vicinity of Halifax Harbour, namely: The Salmon River, Sackville River with its tributaries, Nine Mile River, a portion of the head waters of the Shubenacadie, and also other smaller streams; I then proceeded down the coast for the like purpose to St. Margaret's Bay, and visited Indian River, Ingraham River, East River, and North East River. In nearly the whole of these streams salmon were reported to enter, but in very much less numbers than in former years; formidable barriers, such as mill-dams and lumber-dams, were noticed upon them, in some cases quite impassable for the ascent of salmon; mill rubbish and sawdust were thrown indiscriminately into these streams; these obstructions, to which may be added the barbarous practice of taking them by torchlight and spear in former times, have had the effect of greatly reducing the number of salmon in many of these waters, and almost exterminating them in others. From information obtained from some of the inhabitants, and from a close inspection of the maps of the Province, I am led to believe that multitudes of streams containing greater and lesser volumes of water than those above mentioned empty into the sea all along the coast of Nova Scotia, into nearly all of which more or less salmon still enter, unless they are wholly detained on account of impassable mill-dams.

Having a desire to locate the first or original Piscicultural Institution of that Province in the vicinity of the city of Halifax, without prejudice, however, to its actual and necessary requirements. I made special enquiry concerning the Sackville River, which had been strongly recommended by Mr. Whiteher, and to which particular attention was subsequently drawn by General Haly. I also made several additional personal inspections of it. This stream empties into Halifax Harbour at the head of Bedford basin, an extensive and beautiful arm of the sea. Just at its mouth, where it debouches into the tidal waters of the basin, is the little town of Bedford, with its harbour, wharves, railway station, &c., distant ten miles from the city of Halifax. In this river, it was reported to me by reliable authority, that salmon in considerable numbers still entered for spawning purposes; and I also learned from old fishermen engaged in netting in the basin and harbour, that some few salmon were taken by them yearly directly in the estuary of the river. These fish would undoubtedly have been on their migration up the Sackville River. Information was also given by old inhabitants along the stream that salmon had been seen by them in the act of spawning during the previous autumn on some of the branches of the river.

In addition to the advantages just described in relation to the Sackville River it may be mentioned that it flows through a moderately well-cultivated section of the Province; and is accessible to and from it, (particularly the lower portions) at all seasons of the year either by railway or waggon, and during the greater part of the season also by steamboats and other sailing craft. The supply of water is at times very large—and during the droughts of summer there is a never-failing and abundant flow in it.

Whilst the primary object of artificial fish-culture is to restock and multiply, fish in barren waters and depleted rivers, and to increase supplies of food and enlarge commercial traffic in that commodity; other desirable views should not be wholly lost sight of, particularly in its first introduction into a Province or a country. There-

fore in the location of a site for a new industry of this kind it should be so placed that a large portion of the community whom it is intended to benefit would be enabled, not only to conveniently visit the institution, but also have opportunities afforded them of having ocular demonstrations of its workings and usefulness. The erection of some new manufactory in a wilderness on some very remote place, simply because some particular advantage might be had in the procuring of motive power, or in obtaining the raw material wherewith to work it, would not conduce to the interests of the people or its projectors, generally, to such an extent as it would when placed in more populous parts and where its benefits would be directly felt and fully appreciated. In like manner ought this new enterprise for breeding fish by artificial means to be considered by the inhabitants of the country.

The Sackville River was accordingly chosen as being best adapted, under the circumstances, for this purpose, and the site selected for the establishment of the necessary buildings was just at its outlet into the tidal waters of Bedford Basin. This spot is admirably adapted to the institution. A fall of several feet in the river is formed here by the water tumbling over a series of boulders and rocky ledges, and the elevation above is sufficient from whence to carry the water by means of an iron pipe underground to the tanks in the buildings, and thence into the hatching troughs. The site selected for the breeding-house cannot be obstructed or shut out from open view by any other buildings, being immediately on the river's edge and so located in every other way upon the property purchased by your Department that neither danger from fire nor interference of any kind need be apprehended. Another advantage it possesses is, being only a few hundred yards from the conveniences of a railway station, steamboat landing, stage road, post and telegraph offices, and other accommodations. By these means the utmost facilities are offered for procuring supplies of salmon eggs from other parts of the Province, and also from any of the other fish-breeding establishments in the adjoining Provinces if found necessary. In like manner the location will be found very convenient for transporting the young fry either by water or rail to other rivers in the Province, where it may be found advisable to plant them. The site being selected, and the requisite land and water-privileges being purchased, no delay was made in commencing operations for putting up suitable buildings. For this purpose Messrs. Elliott & Bush, Government Architects, at Halifax, were directed to draw up plans and specifications for a commodious and sightly structure, and tenders were asked for to carry on the work. After some delay six tenders were put in, varying in estimates from three thousand three hundred to four thousand two hundred dollars. After full consideration of the several offers made by the applicants, the contract was finally awarded to Mr. James Lawlor, a builder in Halifax, for the sum of three thousand three hundred dollars, and it was also stipulated that everything appertaining to it should be finally completed by the 15th day of October following.

Arrangements were also entered into with a Mr. Talson, (who was made a special guardian of the river), to secure, if possible, a supply of salmon in the Sackville River, for which purpose permission was given him to net or otherwise capture them, doubts, however, existed with me whether a sufficient number of parent salmon could be procured in that river for stocking the establishment with eggs, on account of the lateness of the season and the fish having already passed by to the upper parts of the stream.

Everything having been done at this time that was possible towards the erection of the Nova Scotia establishment and supplying it with eggs for the coming season, I made arrangements for proceeding to Prince Edward Island in order to carry out my instructions and to obtain practical knowledge concerning its rivers, with the view that at some future time fish-breeding works would be put up on the Island to improve the salmon fisheries there, which were reported from all quarters to have become almost destroyed.

Appended to this report will be found a description by Mr. A. B. Wilmot of operations at the breeding establishment near Halifax. It will therefor be unnecessary for me to give here any lengthened statements concerning the progress there.

I cannot, however, refrain from making a few remarks in relation to the unexpected measure of success which has thus far attended these operations.

I have frequently drawn the attention of your Department in my former reports to the very serious difficulties experienced in getting, even ordinarily skilled assistants to take charge of the new piscicultural establishments that are annually built. I am compelled to mention it again here, and had it not so happened that the spawning season of the salmon was to be somewhat later in Nova Scotia than in the adjoining Province at Miramichi, I fear the Halifax nursery could not have been opened during the past season.

No person of experience could be had; neither could any of the skilled hands from the other establishments be spared to take charge of the Sackville institution; fortunately, however, the operation of collecting eggs on the Miramichi River closed in sufficient time for me to obtain the services of Mr. A. B. Wilmot, the officer in charge there, who was immediately despatched to Halifax, where as will be seen from his report his success was such that some *six hundred thousand* salmon ova were obtained at River Philip, and safely carried to the Sackville nursery. It is also extremely gratifying to further add that, from the latest accounts received from there, upwards of *half a million* of these eggs were so far advanced in incubation as to show formation of the fry within them plainly.

The present available space in the Bedford building, for the raising of salmon, may be so arranged as to accommodate the laying down of nearly three millions of ova; and judging from the facilities already obtained at the Musquodoboit and Philip Rivers for procuring eggs, to which may be added the probability of obtaining further supplies from other rivers along the coast, and from the Sackville River, it may be confidently anticipated that it will be stocked with salmon ova during the coming season of 1876 to its full capacity.

Operations at the Restigouche River Establishment.

The success in obtaining eggs on the Restigouche did not prove as satisfactory this season as it did during the season of 1874. This is to be accounted for by the unusually high state of the water in the river, and the constant floods which prevailed in the autumn and during the whole of the spawning season of the salmon. It was found almost impossible to procure any great number of parent fish, and the few that were taken were obtained under the most trying and difficult circumstances.

Mr. Mowat, the officer in charge of the Restigouche establishment, and also Fishery Overseer in that section of the country, than whom none other could be found more zealous and indefatigable in carrying out any difficult undertaking, somewhat failed in his expectations and in his endeavours to secure the desired supply of ova for that establishment.

Whilst we were enabled to report upwards of 800,000 eggs as having been successfully laid down here during the previous season, not more than 300,000 will be the result of this year's operation; these must have been thoroughly impregnated and carefully laid on the hatching trays, as from the latest accounts from the Restigouche all of these eggs have proved fruitful, and young fish are quite discernable in them.

In a conference with Mr. Mowat, some time ago, plans were proposed and agreements made by which a certain number of salmon should be taken on their early migration up the river in June and July; these fish were to be put into ponds prepared for them, and there safely kept till they become mature for spawning in October, and after being manipulated, to be again returned to the river. This method should undoubtedly give certainty for obtaining the required number of eggs to fill the breeding house on the Restigouche river.

From this salmon nursery upwards of 600,000 young fry were distributed during last spring into the waters of the main Restigouche and its tributaries; and also into many other rivers and streams in that section of the country. These young salmon were the produce of the eggs laid down during the autumn of 1874. In the trans-

portation of them to their several destinations, many of which were at long distances from the breeding houses, only trifling losses were sustained; and in the distribution of such a large number of young fish, the most satisfactory results were realized.

As before stated, I regret very much that I was unable to make a personal inspection of the Restigouche works. I had contemplated introducing some new apparatus there for laying down, within the same area, a largely increased number of eggs, and also arranging means by which a larger supply of parent fish might in the future be relied upon. These and other matters will receive my personal attention during next season.

Gaspé.

At this salmon-breeding establishment one hundred and ten thousand fry were hatched out during the spring of 1875. These were distributed in the St. John, Dartmouth and Malbaie rivers; other points were chosen in which to place some of these young fish, but freshets prevailed to such an extent as to prevent the possibility of accomplishing the work of distributing them.

It appears from the report of Mr. Vibert, the officer in charge at Gaspé, that very few parent salmon were obtained by him during last season; and, therefore, a requisite supply of ova was not collected, even to fill partially the breeding troughs of the establishment. No precise number of eggs is mentioned as having been obtained; it appears, however, that the supply on hand is looking very well, and that the losses so far have been very small.

From the difficulties experienced there last season in the procuring of spawning salmon, it appears indispensably requisite that some more satisfactory method should be adopted during next season, by which a necessary supply of salmon will be obtained to stock with eggs the breeding troughs of the establishment at Gaspé. The number taken in the estuary fisheries of the St. John, York and Dartmouth weirs, would lead to the conclusion that an ample supply of fish might also be secured for the purposes of the works at Gaspé.

Operations at Miramichi.

At this establishment an unaccountable disaster took place, causing the loss of almost the whole of the great number of eggs that were deposited there during the fall of 1874. (The particulars of this loss will be found in the report of Mr. A. B. Wilmot.) A very peculiar circumstance in connection with the death of these eggs is that their vitality should have continued uninjured till on the very eve of the fry emerging from the shell in the beginning of the month of May. It is alleged by the officer who was then in charge of the establishment that some injurious substance was produced from the perforated zinc traps upon which the ova were laid, which may have brought about this loss. Another cause given by him is that the mortality may have arisen from the insufficient supply and sluggishness of the water passing through the troughs, by which means certain deleterious substances instead of being carried off settled upon the eggs and killed them. This latter definition of the serious epidemic amongst the ova appears the more reasonable of the two, to which, no doubt, may be added a certain amount of inattention at this critical period, when the utmost care and watchfulness was the more indispensably requisite, both on account of the evident scarcity of water, and the too thickly laid numbers of eggs upon the breeding trays.

Some slight amount of credence may be attached to the statement that injurious matter might possibly be produced by certain chemical substances which may have prevailed in the water there coming in contact with the perforated zinc plates upon which the eggs were placed; but it must be very doubtful, indeed, in this case, from the fact that ova had remained upon the trays between five and six months without receiving any previous injury. Moreover, these same zinc plates were prepared with two coatings of parafine varnish which made them quite impervious to the action of the water;

and again precisely similar trays were used at all the other fish-breeding establishments without causing any loss or injury to the eggs laid upon them.

It is to be deeply regretted that this misfortune should have taken place: it will, however, be a strong practical lesson to prevent a like occurrence again. A remedy has already been applied, so far as the supply of water was concerned, by causing a largely increased volume to pass through the troughs, and by otherwise preventing the possibility of any stoppage of a constant flow during the whole of the hatching season. The young fry that were hatched out and had escaped from the destruction referred to, were all distributed in the several tributaries of the Miramichi River.

The difficulties experienced in getting a sufficient supply of eggs at some of the other breeding works, were also strongly felt here. This serious stoppage of supplies of ova at this large establishment on the Miramichi River must be prevented in the future. The waiting to procure parent salmon till the late autumn months, when the rivers are more subject to heavy freshets, has proved to be of too serious a nature for a repetition. Nothing hereafter should prevent the taking of a good supply of salmon for this establishment during the summer months, and if found necessary this number could be increased in the autumn.

The quantity of eggs deposited in the hatching house on the Miramichi during the past season, although not very large, is reported to be in a very good condition, and the buildings, dams and all other appliances relating to the establishment are in the best possible order.

Operations at Tadousac, on the River Saguenay.

At this institution a considerable number of salmon eggs were laid down in October last, nevertheless it is to be regretted that the quantity obtained was not very much larger, the cause which prevented a sufficient supply from being secured was found to be the same as in many other rivers throughout the Provinces, namely, the very much reduced number of salmon taken during the season of 1875. It is a remarkable fact that all along the north shore of the St. Lawrence there was not anything like the average catch of salmon of the previous year.

Many conjectures have arisen as to the cause of this apparent decrease in the tidal and river fisheries, and various theories have been advanced. It does not necessarily follow because less salmon were netted or otherwise caught during the regular season for fishing, that comparatively less numbers must have entered the rivers for spawning purposes. It frequently so happens that excessive and late spring floods will prevail one season more than another, and when this is the case, the estuary fisheries become obstructed, operations are retarded, and nets and weirs are sometimes swept away. From these causes the fish do not meet with the usual hindrances, and they pass upwards more freely to the smaller branches and sources of the rivers, into the interior of the country. This may have been the case during the season just past, for it is reported that floods were more numerous, and prevailed later than usual.

Another circumstance related by those engaged in fishing on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, (which may account in part for the decrease of salmon referred to) is that almost all of the fish captured bore marks or scars upon them, having the appearance as if being done by the claws or teeth of some animal; and it is believed that where so many salmon were thus found wounded and scratched, very great numbers from the same causes must have been killed also, and that the seal and porpoise being enemies of the salmon may have committed this havoc.

Another view entertained is this, that sharks being the common enemy of all fish, and having no doubt a preference for superior food like the salmon, caused this destruction. This theory may with propriety be sustained from the fact of the astonishingly great numbers of these voracious sea-fish that were found frequenting the coast. It may be mentioned here that authentic accounts have been received of no less than thirty Greenland sharks being taken late in the autumn at one time off the mouth of the Saguenay River. These rapacious monsters were captured along

with an equal number of porpoises at one haul, in a strong net used for catching the latter, and into this the sharks had driven the porpoises, and being so intent upon their destruction had pursued them so closely as to become entangled themselves in the net, thus sharks and porpoises were all happily secured together.

To prevent the recurrence of a want of the necessary supply of spawns for next year (even should heavy freshets prevail) an arrangement has been made on the St. Jean River by which all of the salmon that may migrate up it will be secured in a reception-house, constructed upon the same plan and with the same contrivance for entrapping them as that which has been found to answer so satisfactorily for several years past at the breeding establishment at Newcastle in Ontario. This structure on the St. Jean, together with the enclosure of the small cove at Tadousac previously made, will undoubtedly warrant the taking and safe-keeping of a sufficient stock of parent salmon in the future for all the wants of the Tadousac breeding-house.

In order to warrant greater success at the Saguenay during the past season than heretofore, I despatched Mr. Neevin, my assistant at this place, to Tadousac early in October last, with instructions to manipulate and impregnate the eggs of the salmon secured there, and also to instruct the persons in charge how to perform the work in the future. The number of ova collected and laid in the hatching troughs amounted to upwards of *two hundred thousand*. From accounts lately received from Joseph Radford, Esq., of Tadousac, I learn that these eggs were all doing very well, and bid fair to hatch out with but a very trifling per centage of loss.

It will be not only interesting but also a source of information both in a practical and scientific point of view, to all who may be concerned in the culture of salmon, for me to record an experiment made at the Tadousac works in the impregnation, and thorough fertilization of a quantity of ova, which were taken from parent salmon, that were kept in salt water up to the time at which the ova and the milk were expressed from them.

The particulars of the experiment are as follows:—In July last a number of salmon were netted off Tadousac harbour on the St. Lawrence, and enclosed in a small inlet or arm of the Saguenay, into which the sea regularly ebbs and flows to the height of from seven to twelve feet. On the twenty-third of September they were all removed into a fresh water pond, with the exception of *one female and two males*, which were left in the salt water for experiment.

The most of the fish that were in the fresh water were spawned on the 20th of October, and those in the salt water were operated upon on the 28th of October. The difference in appearance was observable in the eggs that were taken from either places. It was noticed, however, that the ova and the milt came more freely from the fish in the salt water pond; this may be accounted for from the later date at which they were handled; both lots underwent the same process of impregnation, and were laid in separate troughs, on separate hatching trays; the utmost care having been taken ever since to prevent the possibility of mixture. About the same number of unfertilized eggs have been taken from each sample. The salmon at the present date, February 1st, are precisely similar, all showing the young fry within them quite perceptible to the naked eye.

This experiment will go far towards upsetting the theory advanced by some writers on the nature and habits of the salmon, who state that the ova and the milt of the *salmo salar*, will not mature in salt water, but that it is indispensably necessary to their fertilization that the parent salmon shall, for some time previously inhabit fresh water in order that the eggs shall arrive at maturity, and be susceptible of fecundation. Mr. Whitcher having devoted some attention to this point, and believing strongly that in sheltered places, or in brackish water, the ova might be developed in due course, several salmon were in 1874 kept inside the dam forming a pond into which a small fresh-water stream empties, and through which the tide from the Saguenay River ebbs and flows; but by an accident the fish escaped before the time of maturity. Before escaping they appeared to be perfectly bright and showed no signs of being gravid. Nothing daunted, however, Mr. Whitcher directed a renewal of the experiment. Having myself had some doubts concerning the purely

fresh-water theory, I too was anxious to repeat the above experiment, which if it results, as I have no doubt it will, in the hatching out of the young salmon in April or May next, just in the same manner as all of the other eggs in the breeding house, the experiment will be fully verified and the beneficial results from it will be to lessen much of the trouble and expense now incurred at some fish-breeding establishments, where salmon have to be caught in tidal waters in June and July and carried to considerable distances by land or by water to fresh water ponds, made expressly for their reception, and there kept till the spawning season arrives in October and November following.

Operations at Newcastle.

Here improvements of considerable importance have been made during the past season. The original establishment was found quite too limited for present requirements. Reference was made to this subject in my report of the past year, and attention was drawn to the necessity of enlarging the buildings and for enclosing the grounds with a substantial fence. These improvements have been made by authority from your Department.

The enlargement of the building was made by adding to the former breeding-room or cellar two additional stories. The first floor is intended for a second fish-breeding room, which doubles the former capacity for hatching purposes. The second floor is divided into offices, museum and laboratory. The room for a museum is of good size, being twenty-two feet wide by forty in length, in which is intended to be set up the several specimens of preserved fishes already obtained, together with such others as may be procured from time to time hereafter.

The middle or first floor of this building was not completed in sufficient time to be made available for the laying down of fish eggs in it the past season. New and improved apparatus in hatching troughs and breeding trays will be prepared in due time for next season's operations, by which an additional supply of upwards of two millions of salmon and salmon trout ova can be accommodated in this new or enlarged establishment.

An increased supply of water will be necessarily required for this second fish-breeding room, and can be very easily obtained by damming back the creek above to such a head as will cause the water to flow through an underground pipe into the apartment, thus giving a constant and sufficient supply at all times for the hatching troughs.

The whole building now presents a handsome and commanding appearance externally, and the arrangements inside are convenient and well adapted for the purposes for which they are intended. The new fence erected to enclose the grounds occupied by your Department in connection with the fish-breeding establishments has been put up with a view to strength and permanency.

Satisfactory results attended the operations here in connection with the different kinds of fish eggs laid down during the fall of 1874. A very large percentage of the salmon ova produced young fry; many of these were planted in various rivers and streams throughout the Province of Ontario, and the balance were let loose into Wilmot's Creek. The young fry of the salmon trout and of the whitefish were also allowed to pass from the hatching troughs into the same stream, from thence they would go down to the waters of Lake Ontario, their natural feeding grounds, where many will no doubt arrive at maturity.

The experiment with the ova of the California salmon, kindly presented to your Department by Professor Baird, United States Commissioner of Fisheries at Washington, was also quite satisfactory. Many of these young Pacific salmon were let loose along with their Ontario cousins in this creek, and it is confidentially hoped that the latter will have such influence over the former as to induce many of them to return in due time to the place of their birth. A considerable number of these California fry were kept on hand for observation; many have quite outdone others in their growth, notwithstanding all were placed in the same tanks and were equally

care for, some have now reached six inches in length, while others will not exceed two inches. This peculiarity in the difference of the size of fish with precisely similar treatment may appear curious; it is nevertheless a fact in connection with the growth of all kinds of fishes.

Distribution of Fry from Newcastle Establishment, 1875.

Of the young salmon hatched from the eggs laid down in 1874 the numbers were very satisfactory, yielding a return of about eighty per cent. These were distributed in several of the streams of the country. A large number were sent by railway and steamer to Salmon River, a tributary of the Ottawa, emptying into it several miles below the Capital of the Dominion. My engagements were of such a nature that I could not give personal oversight, as formerly, to the shipment of these young salmon; they were entrusted to the care of Mr. Neevin, who conveyed them safely to Ottawa, where every assistance was readily given him by your Commissioner, Mr. Whitcher, who, together with several of the citizens, accompanied the distributing expedition to the Salmon River and aided in planting the fry in well-adapted portions of the stream.

It was reported at the time by the gentlemen who gave their gratuitous assistance, that notwithstanding the long and tedious journey occupied in transporting these fish to their destination, they were when put into the river in the most lively and healthy condition. Many were planted in the same gravelly bottomed parts of the stream that had been selected in previous years, whilst others were carried a long distance further up the river and deposited in beautifully sheltered hiding places. The party also learned from inhabitants along the river that many young salmon had been seen in various parts of the stream during the previous autumn and summer months. These had reached the size of *parrs* and *smolts*, and were no doubt a part of those which had been placed there in former years from this establishment.

Another lot of fry were taken to a section of Western Ontario where others had been distributed in former years, on one of the branches of the Saugeen River, near Mount Forrest, a station on the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway. This spot was selected on account of its easy and ready access by rail, and as being close at hand to several of the tributaries of the main Saugeen, which, after flowing through a large section of country, empties itself into Lake Huron, at the town of Southampton.

The planting of salmon fry at this point last spring was the repetition of an experiment commenced a few years ago, and was undertaken to ascertain practically whether salmon might not become wholly acclimated to fresh water, and be made natives of Lake Huron and others of the great inland seas of the West. At the commencement of the experiment it was stated that there were no insuperable difficulties on that branch of the Saugeen River which would prevent the easy migration of salmon to the upper portion of it. Therefore, in the event of their becoming acclimated to the waters of Lake Huron, this river would be well adapted for the experiment, because in carrying out the instinctive habit of their nature they would ascend the same stream for pro-creating their young as that which they migrate from, either as *parrs* or *smolts*.

It will be found very difficult to solve a nice problem of this kind without obtaining the assistance of fishermen and others who may reside in the neighbourhood where the experiment is being applied. Close watch should be given to and special notice taken of those portions of the river where its bed would be found naturally adapted for spawning purposes. Failing to obtain gratuitous assistance from the inhabitants, it would be well to specially authorize some competent person to make a close inspection of the river during the next spawning season. By this means some reliable information might possibly be obtained concerning this, not only interesting, but important question.

Rumors have been circulated that a few strange fish were of late taken in some of the waters of Lake Huron. One in particular was related to me last autumn at Sandwich (when engaged in procuring whitefish eggs), to the effect that a fish

weighing several pounds had been caught during the summer in the Detroit River, strongly resembling a salmon-trout, but brighter in colour and longer, and more symmetrical in shape. This description would very well answer that of the true salmon, but in the absence of a personal inspection of this specimen it must only end in conjecture. Another case was reported in several of the papers that a specimen of the salmon tribe had been caught during the past year in the American waters of Lake Huron, and forwarded to Prof. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institute, who pronounced it to be a smelt of the true *salmo-salav*.

It would be most gratifying to have close research made into this subject by thoroughly prospecting, at the proper time, the Saugeen River with its estuary fisheries near Southampton. But the enormity of work which always devolves upon myself and my limited number of assistants in collecting ova at the very period in which an inspection would be necessarily required, wholly forbids the possibility of its accomplishment. Therefore, no other alternative (for the present) presents itself but to continue planting young salmon, as heretofore, in that river, patiently waiting for something to turn up that will either prove or disprove the theory of acclimating these fish to our immense fresh water seas.

Large numbers of the fry reared at the Newcastle establishment last spring were forwarded to Mr. Wilkins, Fishery Officer at Belleville. These were deposited by him in the Moira, Trent and other rivers in that section of the country. Many were also placed in Barber's Creek, at Bowmanville. Others were sent to the Credit River, Duffin's Creek and the Grafton Stream, and the balance were dropped here and there into the head waters of the creek upon which this establishment is built. Throughout the whole of the work of the distribution and transportation of this great quantity of young fry to the several destinations mentioned, the loss experienced was very trivial indeed.

Appearance of Salmon, 1875.

It is a subject of pleasure to again reiterate the statements made in former years of the increasing numbers of salmon that annually enter this stream; one feature in particular, with regard to them during last fall, was their size, which was generally of a much larger average; many of the spent fish were found to range between fifteen and twenty pounds in weight, and in some instances even heavier. It is quite unnecessary to repeat here the flattering accounts which were frequently given by the daily and weekly press of the country, and by the many persons who visited the establishment last autumn, of the ocular demonstration they had of the great numbers of salmon that were in the reception house, the ponds, and in the open stream within the enclosed grounds of this institution.

An account of the annual increase of fish in this stream being given in former years, I would briefly refer to the satisfactory show of salmon that entered it last fall. It was particularly noticed that by far the greater proportion of the fish, were larger and heavier than those of any former year; and it was found that very few of these *big fish* entered the reception house. This, no doubt, arose from the same cause that prevented them last year, namely, the low state of the water in the stream. It appears to be the habit of these large salmon after entering the stream and reaching the fish pools of any depth, to remain there till the latest moment that nature will permit of retaining their ova; and then to run to the nearest gravel bed (sometimes only a few rods above) and there deposit their eggs as quickly as possible, performing the whole operation at times, in one night, and then they retrace their journey directly to the deep waters of the lake.

It is maintained by many professing to have a thorough knowledge of the habits of the salmon, that the emission of the ova, or milt, from the parent fish, is not performed all at once; neither can it be done in a short period of time; nor does the ova all ripen at the same time; and that it is laid from day to day, or from week to week, just as it matures sufficiently for easy expulsion from the body.

This may be the case in some instances; it depends, however, almost wholly upon

circumstances; for instance, the size of the river or the flow of water for the time in the creek or other stream into which salmon have entered or intend entering for spawning purposes. It will be found that where the streams are very small and where droughts prevail in the autumn, preventing them from becoming swollen in size, the salmon will remain outside in the deep water, instinctively waiting till some rise of water or freshet will come to enable them to make their passage upwards over the shallows. Should this not occur, and when nature shall have completed the work of thoroughly ripening the ova so that it cannot be retained any longer, the parent fish will, as before stated, leave the salt or fresh water pool, forcing themselves upwards (in many cases with their bodies almost wholly out of the water) till they reach some available spot where they will eject the whole of their spawn and milt in the space of a few hours. This work is generally performed in the night season.

The above facts were fully demonstrated here last autumn in the following way: A number of salmon that had rested for some time in a deep part of the stream, within the enclosed grounds, were watched closely night and day, with the expectation that when ready for spawning they would pass up stream some fifty rods over gravel beds into the reception house, where they could be easily taken and manipulated by the artificial process. During one night these fish were seen, or rather heard, rushing upwards from the pool, giving unmistakable information of their ascent, by the noise they made struggling over the shallows where the stream did not exceed five or six inches in depth; but instead of passing onward to the reception house, they commenced the work of forming their beds, at which they laboured most perseveringly till early morning, when they dropped down stream to their usual meeting place in the pool below. To show the determination and impetuosity with which these fish perform their work, it may be related that their rapid movements and violent flapping in the water could be distinctly heard some thirty yards from the stream; and so intent were they at their labour, that in passing closely alongside some of them on the banks of the stream very little fear or uneasiness was exhibited other than at times moving slowly from their work, but returning to it again almost immediately, and the scratches and bruises which were seen upon their bodies the following day gave undoubted evidence of the severity of the work in which they had been engaged.

These fish were the first spawners of the season, no beds whatever having been previously made in the stream. On the morning after the labour of the salmon referred to, several large beds, covering at intervals a distance of some thirty or forty rods of the creek, were plainly seen. In some of them the gravel was scooped out the depth of a foot and more, thus giving evidence of the large size and weight of the fish.

Anticipating success in procuring a large supply of eggs from these salmon for the breeding room, they were netted from the pool the same day; but after careful handling and thorough manipulation, scarcely one thousand eggs could be obtained where one hundred thousand were certainly expected, disclosing the fact that all had been spawned out upon the newly-formed beds in the stream during the previous night. This instance clearly shows how, in what may be termed an almost incredibly short space of time, salmon are enabled to perform the work of spawning.

With regard to the number of fish that entered the stream last fall, no exact record could be well kept as many would have entered the creek, deposited their spawn and have left it again, performing their work, no doubt, in the same short space of time and manner described above; great numbers, however, principally of the smaller sized ones and grilse, came into the buildings. From these upwards of a million of eggs were taken out and spread upon the hatching trays. Between seven and eight hundred of them were put out of the house and ponds on several occasions, and many others were allowed to go away without any record being kept; indeed many salmon came into the stream during my absence at the Sandwich establishments in the latter part of the month of November. At this time the creek was frozen over with ice.

The accounts which have been sent to me by the guardians in charge of many other streams where young salmon have been planted in former years is of an en

couraging nature. Mr. Hinman, the officer at Grafton Creek, reports having seen upwards of two hundred salmon in it at one time during last season. Mr. Colman, in charge of the Bowmanville stream, reports a large number of very heavy salmon in that creek; many of these entered the reception house built there, and several thousands of ova were taken from them. The remainder deposited their eggs in the bed of the stream in the natural way. Mr. Coleman also informs me that he had several persons brought to justice for violations of the fishery laws in that neighbourhood.

Mr. Wilkins, Fishery Overseer at Bellville, makes mention in his annual report: "That the salmon fry which were put in the rivers Trent and Moira a few years ago, are now making their appearance in the form of salmon."

Mr. J. W. Kerr, the very efficient Fishery Officer, at Hamilton, also reports from his division: "That Duffins creek made an unusually respectable appearance in salmon; and that the Big and Little Rouge rivers showed an increase of these fish over former years." He also states: "That salmon attracted the attention of fishermen at various points on Lake Ontario where they had not been known for many years previously, some few having been captured in whitefish seines."

An experiment was made last season (under instructions from your department) by setting trap nets along a portion of the shore of Lake Ontario near the outlet of Wilmot's creek, with the view of ascertaining whether salmon were to be taken during the summer months as formerly. For this purpose Mr. Louis Strouger, a practical trap-net fisherman was engaged to carry on the work. Several nets were put down about 1st July and taken up on the 30th, as the close season commenced on the 1st April. Mr. Strouger gives a statement of his proceedings as follows:—"The past season was a remarkable one as regards wind, water, and fish. The water in the lake was very low, consequently there was no wash of food from the banks. The only high winds that prevailed (with one exception on the 29th July) were from the northwest and northeast, therefore the water was too clear for any kind of fishing, and there was no swell to stir any sediment or food from the bottom. The largest catch was on the 30th July, after the storm. The nets were then taken up as the close season had commenced. I should strongly recommend at least two weeks extension of time."

Notwithstanding the unfavourable statement of the weather given by Mr. Strouger, about 120 salmon were taken, the greater proportion of these were netted during the latter part of July; they were disposed of principally in the Toronto market, at favourable prices, varying from fifteen to twenty cents per pound. A detailed statement of these sales has been rendered by Mr. Strouger.

It appears that salmon do not come to the shore of the lake as early now as they did in former years, which is accounted for by the fact that the herring (the principal fish upon which the salmon feed in Lake Ontario) has now become almost exterminated. These fish were very plentiful in years past, they approached closely to the shores of the lake during the summer months for the purpose of procuring supplies of food, which consisted of the larvæ of flies and insects, these were washed from the beach and blown from the high banks into the lake, and whilst the herring were thus engaged the salmon followed in pursuit and preyed largely upon them.

From this great scarcity of food the salmon do not now approach the shores of the lake as formerly but remain out in the deeper water, and cannot therefore be captured with trap-nets, which are set at distances not exceeding eight or ten rods from the beach into the lake.

In August, but more particularly in September and October, salmon are instinctively compelled to come near to the shores in search of the estuaries of the streams upon which they intend migrating for spawning purposes; during these months large numbers, no doubt, could be netted, as it appears now that considerable numbers of these fish are to be found in various parts of Lake Ontario.

From the reasons above given (even although salmon were very plentiful in the lake), it is doubtful whether many could be netted before the 1st of August. It might then, under the circumstances, be advisable to extend the time under special

licenses for taking salmon in Lake Ontario until the 15th of August; by this means better opportunities would be given for taking them, and not injuriously affect the numbers of parent fish required for breeding purposes.

Number of Eggs Laid Down.

There were laid down in the Newcastle Establishment during last fall, about one and-a-half millions of fish-eggs of the following kinds, namely: salmon one million, salmon-trout three hundred thousand and whitefish two hundred thousand. This number quite filled all of the available space that the original appliances in the building were capable of accommodating. The loss with the salmon eggs has been exceedingly small, and the young fish that will be produced from them will no doubt exceed an average of eighty per cent. Their present appearance is most satisfactory. The salmon-trout ova are also in a very healthy state and will yield a high average of fry, some losses were sustained in the carriage of the trout-eggs from Thornbury on the Georgian Bay (the point where they were collected). A large number of the whitefish eggs will soon hatch out, these were brought from the Detroit river after collecting the supply for the Sandwich establishment.

The number of California salmon eggs forwarded by the over landrailway route from the McLeod river (a branch of the Sacramento), to this establishment was invoiced at 80,000, they arrived here on the 31st of October, and upon unpacking were found to be in first class condition. In picking them over before being placed on the trays, barely one thousand were found dead, some others turned bad before the final hatching out, amounting in the whole to about ten per cent. A large number of the fry have since been placed in large tanks of living spring waters, the balance being still kept in the breeding troughs in which they were hatched out. Those in the spring water are at present very much further advanced in their development than the ones that were left in the creek water in the breeding-house,—all are, however, doing very well.

With regard to the quantity of eggs deposited in the Newcastle establishment last fall, it may be mentioned that all of the available space within the originally constructed breeding-room was perfectly filled. These are all in the most healthy and prosperous state, and the average of fruitful eggs is much higher than in any former year. There are also a very large number of salmon-trout ova undergoing the process of hatching in this establishment; these and the eggs of the salmon are far advanced, showing quite visibly the formation of the young fish within them.

Of the eighty thousand California salmon eggs forwarded to this institution from the United States breeding establishment on the Pacific Coast, through the instrumentality of Prof. Baird, of Washington, I am enabled to give a most satisfactory account; they arrived here after their long journey across the continent in the most perfect state of preservation, and have all since hatched out; the fry are now exhibiting the strongest evidences of health and great vitality.

Thus far the season throughout has been most unsatisfactory for taking care of fish eggs. The unusually soft open winter, and frequent heavy rain storms which have prevailed made numerous freshets, and so flooded the streams as to cause great quantities of sediment and other deleterious substances to settle upon the eggs. This has entailed a large amount of extra work and close attention to wash and otherwise cleanse them from these impurities.

In closing this report of the transactions of the past year, in relation to the practical operations and experiments connected with fish-culture by the artificial methods of propagation, I am more fully convinced of its great national importance as a means by which the nature and habits of the various kinds of fishes that inhabit the immense area of water within this Dominion may be most fully known and understood; and that by a more thorough application of the knowledge derived from practical experiments we may soon be enabled to make our waters as productive as our soil, and thus aid in increasing indefinitely cheap and wholesome food for the Canadian people. Respectfully submitted.

Newcastle, February 1st, 1876.

SAMUEL WILMOT.

PETER COLEMAN's Report of Salmon Fishery on Barber's Creek, in the Town of Bowmanville, December 1st. 1875.

Salmon in Barber's Creek.

October 5th—The first salmon appeared and we commenced repairing racks and clearing out fish-house.

October 6th—Put racks across the creek, and put down racks in fish-house; got team and scraped away beds of gravel which obstructed the water to fish-house.

October 7th—Two salmon in house; several in creek; commenced guarding the fish with three able hands, one by day and two at night.

October 12th—Ten salmon in house; scores in creek; many large.

October 14th—Mill pond above let off to repair flume, a flood of water rushed down, but racks firm.

October 15th—The creek dry; got fish in deepest pools.

October 16th—Natural stream came down and the fish went down with it to deeper water and commenced working and spawning on nearest gravel beds, and seemed afraid to run up creek again.

October 20th—A fresh run of fish; scores of new beds commenced with fish on them.

October 25th—Twenty-three salmon in house, and one hundred and fifty beds in creek.

October 28th—Mr. Wilmot's foreman came with apparatus and spawned them all and put out in creek.

November 5th—Ten fish more in house.

November 8th—Mr. Wilmot's foreman spawned and put them in creek; several were nearly spent and as none would be spawned again we took up the stop racks to allow the fish to go in and out at pleasure; worked near the house; several in it every day.

November 12th—Fish leaving creek, having done spawning.

November 17th—But one solitary fish in house; we removed racks, stored everything in house required for next year, and ended our labours for this season highly pleased with the increase of fish this year over last, being about double, and larger fish.

PETER COLEMAN,
Fishery Officer.

COPY of extracts from annual report of J. W. KERR, Fishery Officer at Hamilton, in reference to salmon within his division, season of 1875.

DUFFIN'S CREEK.

"The salmon in Duffin's Creek last fall made an unusual respectable appearance. The fish were larger and more numerous than the previous year. The fish were shy and hardly ever showed during day time, being hid away in deep holes, and under Mr. Moses Smith's flour mill and the covered way before the mill. This was owing to the great noise caused in the construction of the large iron railway bridge over the creek there at the particular season of spawning.

At night, however, when everything was still and quiet the continued working of the fish on the beds indicated by observation how numerous the fish were. Such of the fish as were seen by the Guardians were large, ranging by appearance as high as twenty pounds in weight. The perfect spawning beds numbered sixty-three.

The Guardians were attentive both night and day during the time these parent salmon remained in Duffin's Creek, which, strange to say, was earlier, and spawning was not half so long as it has been in former years.

The fish all returned to the lake again after spawning without being molested, as Mr. Smith, the head guardian there, has since reported to me.

THE ROUGE RIVER.

"The Big Rouge showed five and the Little Rouge three salmon beds last October, which is an increase over previous years. Mr. James Maxwell, who owns a flour mill on the little Rouge, has signified his willingness to protect the salmon in these creeks in future. One bed was observed in the Hyland Creek last fall.

"Salmon, however, appeared to attract more closely the attention of fishermen at various parts of Lake Ontario during the past year than heretofore for many years previously. For instance, a salmon fifteen pounds weight was caught at the gap in a whitefish seine on Toronto Island. A two pound fish was caught in a herring gill-net at Burlington Beach, Lake Ontario, and four salmon were taken in whitefish seines near the four mile creek at Niagara."

REPORT OF W. A. B. WILMOT.

BEDFORD, NOVA SCOTIA,
31st December, 1875.

The Honorable A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

In accordance with instructions received from your Department, I left Miramichi on the 9th November for this place to arrange the works and take charge of the fish-breeding establishment being erected here. On my arrival, I found there was still a large amount of work to be done about the building, and the hatching room being immediately required, I instructed the contractor to turn his attention to the completion of that portion at once. Having been informed by Mr. W. H. Rogers, that a number of fish had been captured at Oxford, on River Philip, and as the spawning season was now far advanced, I turned my attention to that quarter. Shortly before my arrival here a large number of ova had been forwarded from Musquodoboit Harbour. These had been collected by Mr. William Anderson, Fishery Overseer of that place, packed in moss and sent here by waggons. I found on examining them that a large number had been injured in transportation and from want of proper treatment after their arrival. Not having sufficient time at my disposal to attend to them myself, I engaged a party to pick out those still alive and place them in the hatching troughs; this I believe was done with proper care, but subsequently they all died.

I found on reaching Oxford that, through the exertions of Mr. Isaac Hingley, Local Overseer, large tank had been built and that about 90 fish had been caught and placed therein. During the following week 20 more were caught, making a total of 110 fish. Of these 65 were females; and I obtained from them 600,000 eggs; being an average of over 9,000 per fish. These were the largest and most productive fish I have handled in any of the four Provinces, many of them weighing over 25 pounds; some few specimens exceeding 30 pounds in weight, and measuring over 46 inches in length. The low state of the water had prevented these fish entering the river previous to the 1st November. They consequently presented a very different appearance to those usually caught at this season of the year, being still of a bright silvery colour and retaining, in a large measure, the strength and condition of a July fish. The natural reproduction of salmon in this river has been greatly reduced in past years, in consequence of the very limited space available for spawning beds. The distance from the head of tide to the mill-dam, at Oxford Village, is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and as this is the highest point to which they can ascend, the whole number of fish entering the river to deposit their ova must do so within this prescribed limit. A large portion of this already too small space is not at all suitable for spawning beds. The result is that the greater part of the ova deposited by the first run of fish is displaced and destroyed by a second run in the formation of their own beds. I was

informed by many old inhabitants that the bed of the river above this dam was composed of fine gravel, and previous to this obstruction being placed therein, large numbers of fish annually visited the upper portions of the river; but of late years none had been seen. The result is that the supply is gradually but surely falling off, and unless some means are adopted by which the salmon will be enabled to reach their old and favourite spawning grounds, a very few years will suffice to completely deplete the river of this valuable fish. There is at present a fish-way in the dam, but it is very deficient and no fish have been known to enter it.

The work of collecting the ova at Oxford was performed under the most unfavourable and disagreeable circumstances in consequence of the intense cold weather which prevailed during the spawning season. The reception tank or building had been constructed in a very temporary manner, and I found it impossible to prevent a portion of the ova from being overchilled while undergoing fecundation. However, the loss from that cause did not exceed 50,000.

The transportation to the hatching house was accomplished without any loss. The mode adopted to prevent injury from frost and from the jarring motion of the waggons and cars was by packing the ova in boxes filled with moss—a layer of moss about two inches deep being placed between the layers of eggs, which were first enclosed in strips of cotton—thus saving a great amount of labour when unpacking. The last lot of ova was placed in the hatching troughs on the 27th of November, being three weeks later than those collected in previous years in the more western Provinces.

The mode of laying down the ova at this establishment was similar to that adopted at Miramichi last season; that is: the surface of the zinc and wire trays were first covered to the depth of half an inch with well washed and screened gravel. The eggs were then placed evenly over the surface of the gravel, thus forming a bed similar to the natural hatching bed, and preventing them from actual contact with the metal.

The entire loss to the present time has been very light, and there are still remaining in the hatching troughs over 550,000 eggs; and from their present appearance I expect to hatch a very fair proportion. Every precaution has been used to prevent an accident of any nature occurring.

The building is now fully completed and presents a very handsome appearance. The contractor has performed his contract in a satisfactory and workmanlike manner. The material is of the best description and well put together.

As the main supply of ova for this establishment for some years will necessarily be drawn from River Philip, I would recommend a small outlay in enlarging and completing the reception house already built there, which is too small to contain the number of parent fish required.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. B. WILMOT.

MR. MOWAT'S REPORT.

DEE SIDE, RESTIGOUCHE, 31st December, 1875.

The work of building a new spile dam, a short distance above the reception house, in order to have a greater command of water as well as to obtain more accommodation for holding parent fish, was completed last August and proved perfectly tight.

So soon as the angling season closed I obtained the services of Alex. Dumeau to take parent fish, by constructing pounds of small mesh nets in order to take them without injury. Unfortunately a flood came on just as the nets were set, causing a loss of stakes as well as tearing the nets. Again on the 12th September, the nets were set with the same result; the whole season was continuous with rains and only three fish were taken. Salmon also were scarce in the river after the middle of August,

there seeming to be no second run of fish as usual. This combined with continual high water caused the fish to ascend higher than usual. I have no doubt sufficient fish could have been taken in July, when they were plenty in the river and the water moderate. But afraid, from former experience, of the long confinement and not at that time ready to capture them, and also depending as usual on the fall supply, I did not do so, finding therefore on the 1st October that I was likely to get few fish at the breeding-house, I took men and canoes, going fifty miles to Kedgwick River and fourteen miles up Main River, and although troubled with continual rises of water, so much so that no bottom could be seen in our usually clear water, I succeeded in capturing sixty fish, placing them in temporary cribs when taken, transferring them afterwards in a large floating crib and conveying them to the breeding-house. I had to ease the fish of a portion of the ova before reaching the house to the extent of 90,000 eggs, not being able to supervise them constantly, nor able to spare a man and canoe to take them in perforated tin pails, keeping them constantly immersed in the river and on the journey down, suspended them in the floating cribs, they should have been boxed and in trays; but had I done so they would have frozen, as well as it being impossible to attend to them, on this lot there will be a loss of 15 per cent, which I attribute to the extra motion.

On arriving at the house the fish and crib gave 120,000 eggs in fine order, although from over ripeness I have no doubt some were lost before arriving. On this lot there is not yet one per cent of loss.

Three men and myself were thus occupied from 1st to 26th October, after that date no fish were got with any eggs in them.

Before leaving I ordered my two sons to get help if necessary, and get all the fish possible near Dee Side, providing them with large buoys to use as cribs to place fish when taken, and on my arrival home was pleased to find they had nearly 100,000 ova laid down in house in good order, and which still continues so.

As the form of the fish in the eggs is now discernable, and I cannot detect an unfertilised egg in the house, I expect to turn out fully 300,000 young fry for next spring.

I feel much disappointed in not being able to fill my breeding-house this season; this has taught me a lesson not to trust fall fishing. A large percentage of the parent fish should be taken in July, and I have no doubt if they are not injured in catching and have proper space and good water they will turn out all right in the fall. At all events our large rivers are not to be trusted to for a fall supply.

As the lessees seem to appreciate the benefits of fish-breeding, I do not apprehend any objection will be made in taking the necessary fish during the angling season, if such should occur those objections should be removed by your Department.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN MOWAT,

Fishery Overseer, Restigouche Division.

To the Honorable A. J. Smith,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

MR. VIBERT'S REPORT.

GASPÉ BASIN, 31st December, 1875.

To the Honorable A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit my report on this establishment for the past season. According to your instructions I took charge of the building on the 1st of January last, with 200,000 salmon ova.

Great difficulty and inconvenience was experienced on account of the dam leaking all the winter, and in fact it was feared at one time that all the spawn would have

perished. Notwithstanding these difficulties and predictions to the contrary, &c., 110,000 young fry were hatched out and placed in the Dartmouth, St. John and Mal baie Rivers. Freshets prevented my depositing any at Grand Pabos, as was intended. I observed that said river would be a desirable place to plant young fish.

I had 30 parent salmon in pond on the River Dartmouth, and owing to a very heavy rain in August, the gravel underneath lower dam was undermined and the fish escaped. I only caught eleven salmon at Mal baie, out of these four died in pond, and among the seven remaining there were only two female fish. From these I obtained 20,000 spawn, which I carried to Gaspé by carriage in a tin bucket with water. I ascended the Dartmouth River in October with three canoes, two of which we portaged over the falls, but on account of the high state of the stream we found it impossible to capture a single fish, this proves that it will not do to depend on getting salmon at the spawning season.

I would suggest that next summer thirty or forty fish be purchased from the fisheries at Anse au Cousin, and carried by means of box barrows filled with water to the pond in rear of the fish-house—this pond is now about 100 feet square—as by placing them there none could escape. If they matured well, a second pond might be built below the dam, and by this arrangement nearly 100 parent salmon could be kept without any possible chance of escape; but in order to secure success next year I must advise putting out nets in the York and Dartmouth Rivers.

In accordance with your instructions I had a new dam built last summer, it is made of round cedar and good cedar spiling, the earth was dug down to the solid rock, and bark rhinds placed all along, and I hope it will last many years unless affected by frost, which I do not think will be the case.

I considered it advisable to teach Mr. Henry Davis the spawning this autumn, so that next year he can assist me; besides if there are parent fish in different places, a second person is necessary, as all may be mature at the same time. Mr. Davis is a trustworthy person and takes much interest in this work.

The spawn now in this building are looking well, considering the rough state of the roads over which they came, and so far the loss has been small; it must also be remembered that much inconvenience and cold is endured by performing spawning operations in the open air, and in order to do this work properly a reception house is necessary. There is only one room made in the upper part of this establishment, and I hope the remainder will be finished next year.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

PHILIP VIBERT, JUN.,

Fishery Overseer, Gaspé Division.

REPORT UPON THE MIRAMICHI FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

MIRAMICHI, N.B., 31st December, 1875.

To the Honorable A. J. Smith,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

SIR.—In my last annual report upon this establishment, which included its operations up to 31st December, 1874, I informed your Department that there was at that time about 1,500,000 ova in the hatching troughs; and that Mr. Sheasgreen, who was in charge during my absence, informed me they presented a healthy and promising appearance. On my return from Gaspé on the 1st of March I found that the loss to that date had not exceeded 10 per cent, and the greatest care and attention had been given them. The embryo in a few instances was just visible, and appearances warranted me in entertaining the most sanguine expectations of hatching a large percentage.

This satisfactory state of the ova continued until the 6th of May, by which time about 100,000 had thrown off the shell, and the hatching was going on rapidly, when

I noticed the beginning of the heavy loss I subsequently met with. The first sign of addling which presented itself was on the under side of those eggs which were laying on and actually in contact with the zinc floors of the hatching trays; and when first noticed, was confined to two or three particular troughs. In three days it had spread through the whole building to such an extent that my stock was reduced in that short time to 150,000 fry and 100,000 eggs; the latter also died during the following week. The entire loss occurred while still in the egg stage, none having died after becoming free of the shell. Attributing the cause of addling to the poisonous action of the zinc, as soon as observed I removed all the eggs off the hatching trays and placed them in the bottoms of the troughs; this did not have the desired effect. A principal cause for the loss was the insufficient supply and sluggishness of the water passing through the hatching troughs allowing some deleterious substance to accumulate to such an extent as to injure the eggs. Had the current been more rapid the loss might not have taken place.

The plan on which this establishment was arranged, as well as the treatment of the ova, was precisely that adopted and introduced by Mr. Samuel Winot at New-castle, Ontario, but I find that on this particular stream for various reasons considerable modification is required.

The improvements I considered necessary I have effected during the past summer, they are as follows:—The construction of a new and more serviceable supply-pond, the increasing of the supply of water entering the reservoir by laying down two additional three-inch bored conducting pipes. I have also increased the rapidity of the current in the hatching troughs by giving each trough a descent of one and three quarter inches in every 12 feet, being an additional descent of three-fourths of an inch. In consequence of the foul nature of this stream I consider a filterer necessary. This would require to be erected outside of the hatching room in such a manner as to receive all the water from the conducting pipes, which after being forced through a series of tanks filled with gravel and sand would be relieved of all foul and deleterious matter it might contain before passing over the ova.

After removing all the dead and injured ova from the troughs, I found I had 150,000 strong and healthy fry left. When these had attained the age of five weeks they were distributed among the tributaries of the Miramichi. The instructions received from your Department concerning the proportions allotted to each river were, as far as possible, carried out.

My efforts towards obtaining a supply of ova for this establishment last autumn, were very unsuccessful. The means usually adopted for securing the parent fish was the setting bar-nets across the northwest Miramichi at a point immediately above the head of tide, and in past years no difficulty was experienced in taking all the fish required. These nets were placed in the river this season ten days earlier than in former years; they remained down twelve days, and during that time forty fish were caught. The heavy freshets now coming on, it was found impossible to use bar-nets any longer. The salmon already taken were transferred to the reception pond, from which they subsequently escaped during a freshet which carried away a portion of the dam. As the spawning season was close at hand, I found it necessary to adopt some strenuous measures to secure a sufficient number of parent fish. I accordingly equipped four different parties with seines and drift-nets. One was placed on the northwest branch, one on the southwest, one on Sabbis River and one which I accompanied on Cain's River. These parties were instructed to ascend the rivers as far as possible, and to spare no effort towards taking salmon. Each party was supplied with a proper box for transporting the salmon down the river to the ponds I had prepared for their reception. For some days after reaching their respective rivers nothing was done, as the extreme height of the waters rendered it impossible to cast a net; as soon as the flood had somewhat subsided fishing commenced, but resulted in a lamentable failure. The number of fish taken by all parties did not exceed fifty, only twelve of which still retained their ova. These fish being a portion of a run which entered the river early in September had

spawned three weeks earlier than in previous seasons. The runs upon which I have heretofore depended for my supply have usually entered during the month of October and beginning of November; these fish did not enter the river at all this season, and I am satisfied from my own observation (having been on the rivers continuously for three weeks) that no run of fish took place after the 20th of September, at which time the freshet was at its height. Finding that all my efforts were availing nothing, I dismissed all the parties except that on the northwest branch, which continued seining at intervals for the purpose of ascertaining whether any fish were coming into the river. Up to the 8th November (on which date I left for Bedford) none had been taken, and I understand a subsequent attempt was made by Mr. Venning and Mr. Hogan, but with similar success.

On the 15th October the twelve fish mentioned above were ready for spawning (over 150 salmon were spawned after the 15th November, 1874) and I collected from them 60,000 ova, which is the total number laid down in the establishment this season. These, Mr. Sheasgreen informs me, are looking well. The loss so far not having exceeded 1,000. He states that the embryo is now visible in the egg.

The establishment in all particulars was in the best working condition possible when I left for Bedford, and had I been enabled to obtain a full supply of ova I could have warranted a most successful issue.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. B. WILMOT.

